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INTRODUCTION

THE 'Admiralty Journal' contains the minutes of the Admiralty Commission of 1673 from January 1, 1673-4, to April 21, 1679, when it was dissolved and a new Commission appointed to succeed it.

The Commission of 1673 opened on July 19 of that year, but the minutes for the first six months are not to be found in the Pepysian Library,¹ although the more important proceedings of the Commission are entered in the letter-book of the Admiralty. These have been printed or abstracted among 'Admiralty Letters' in vol. ii. of the 'Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.' published by the Navy Records Society.

A comparison of the handwriting of the 'Journal' with that of the narrative of the King's escape from Worcester, written out in 1680 by Pepys himself, suggests that the minutes are in his own hand, but there are occasional corrections in some other hand. These are probably the result of their being read over in meeting, after the modern fashion, although there are no chair-

¹ These minutes are, however, entered in another copy of the *Admiralty Journal* now in the Record Office (Adm. 3, 275 and 276). This appears to be a fair copy, made by clerks; it corrects some, but by no means all, of the errors in Pepys's original MS. (see p. cxxviii below).

man's signatures. The errors so corrected are of such a character as to indicate that the minutes were originally taken down in shorthand¹ at the meeting and written out afterwards by the Secretary of the Admiralty. At the beginning of the book the hand is neat and clear ; about November 1674 it becomes larger, and by April 1675 it is very large and straggling ; and it does not recover its earlier appearance until January 1676. Possibly an inference may be drawn from this concerning the state of Pepys's eyesight.

Many of the entries in the ' Journal ' are concerned with matters of routine, and where possible these have been abstracted instead of being printed in full ; but the close texture of Pepys's style does not lend itself to condensation, which in this case would only destroy the flavour of the original without effecting a compensating economy of space. The inevitable result has been that abstracts are rare, and even in routine minutes the full text is often given. But this account of the proceedings of the Admiralty during these years travels far beyond routine and embraces a variety of important questions of policy and organisation. The record is the more valuable because the ' Journal ' is not a mere book of conclusions, but a summary of debates, in which the arguments used on all sides of the questions discussed are set out with admirable conciseness and lucidity. It is at the same time a monument to the great business mind of its compiler, whose methodical good sense and instinct for thoroughness and order are reflected from every page.

¹ Cf. the minute beginning, ' Navy Officers' letter read, reporting several great *authors* to have been taken up out of the sea in and about the Downs ' (p. 45).

For the sake of convenience the arrangement adopted in previous volumes has been adhered to, and the points of interest discussed in this Introduction are therefore dealt with under the following heads: (1) Administration; (2) Finance; (3) Men; (4) Pay; (5) Victuals; (6) Discipline; (7) Ships; (8) Guns; and (9) Miscellaneous.

I. ADMINISTRATION¹

The composition of the Admiralty Commission of 1673-9 which after the passing of the Test Act replaced James Duke of York as the holder of the Lord High Admiral's authority has been discussed elsewhere,² but the 'Journal' supplies fresh information on certain points of detail. The original Commission of July 9, 1673, had included the Earl of Shaftesbury as Lord Chancellor, but on November 9 the Great Seal passed to Sir Heneage Finch as Lord Keeper,³ and he now takes Shaftesbury's place on the Commission as Baron Finch of Daventry. His first attendance was on January 11, 1673-4, and on January 2, 1675-6, he is described as holding the higher office of Lord Chancellor (p. 264). The other original members were Prince Rupert, the Lord Treasurer (Viscount Latimer, created, June 27, 1674, Earl of Danby); the Lord Privy Seal (the Earl of Anglesey); the Dukes of Buckingham, Monmouth, Lauderdale, and Ormonde; the Earl of Arlington (a Secretary of

¹ See also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 36-57; vol. ii. pp. ix-xvi; vol. iii. pp. vii-xxvii.

² *Ib.*, i. 38.

³ The Commission had been issued, in the cases of the lord chancellor, lord treasurer, and lord privy seal, to the holders of those offices 'for the time being' (*ib.*).

State); Sir George Carteret (the Vice-Chamberlain of the Household); Henry Coventry (a Secretary of State); and Edward Seymour, the Treasurer of the Navy, from 1673 to 1679 was also Speaker of the House of Commons. Buckingham was dismissed from all his offices in January 1673-4, and his name does not appear among the attendances recorded in the 'Journal.'

On September 12, 1674, Sir Joseph Williamson, who had succeeded Arlington as Secretary of State, begins to attend the meetings of the Admiralty as an acting member (p. 65), although his name does not appear in the Commission until it was renewed July 28, 1675, when the Earls of Ossory and Craven were added; Arlington continuing to sit as Lord Chamberlain. On September 26, 1677, the Commission was again renewed,¹ with the addition of Sir Thomas Chicheley (Master of the Ordnance) and Sir John Ernle (Chancellor of the Exchequer). Finally, in February 1678-9 the Earl of Sunderland replaced Williamson as a Secretary of State (p. 637), and from Lady Day 1679 Danby disappeared, the office of Lord Treasurer having been put in commission (p. 644). Of this Commission Sir John Ernle was a member (p. 650). The appointment of Samuel Pepys as Secretary to the Admiralty Commission dates from June 1673.²

When the Commission was opened on July 19, 1673, the public meetings were fixed for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at the Council Chamber

¹ The renewal of the commission by letters patent on September 26 was preceded in this case by a resolution of the lords of the admiralty on May 12 in favour of this addition to their number (p. 422), but the new members did not begin to attend until October 20 (p. 502).

² *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 40 n.; ii. 1.

at eight o'clock in the morning¹; but during its six years' tenure of office both time and place were often changed. For the Council Chamber the Robes Chamber at Whitehall was early substituted (p. 3); but in January 1673-4 the Lords of the Admiralty removed to their new office at Derby House (pp. 3, 4), which had been leased from the Duke of Ormonde (p. 49), and this came to be the principal place of meeting, although the Commission still sat frequently at the Robes Chamber, and occasionally at Hampton Court, Newmarket, and Windsor, to suit the King's convenience, and also at the office of Mr. Secretary Coventry. A quorum of the Lords sometimes visited the Navy Office and transacted there such business as required ready access to the papers of the Navy Board. One meeting was held at Lord Arlington's (p. 5), three at the Treasury Chamber at Whitehall, five at the Council Chamber, and one 'at the Committee for Foreign Affairs' (p. 119); while four are vaguely described as held 'at Whitehall.' The early hour of eight in the morning appears to have been soon abandoned, as a minute of February 2, 1673-4, restores it 'in regard of the Parliament's sitting forenoon and afternoon' (p. 6); but there must have been further backsliding, as on September 5, 1674, it was agreed to meet at eight *on Wednesdays*, in order to dispatch the business of the Board before the meeting of the Council (p. 63), and on December 5 'precisely at $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour past 8' was substituted for eight (p. 105). The number of the days of public meeting was also reduced, on

¹ *Admiralty Letters*, No. 58.

April 11, 1674, to Wednesdays and Saturdays only, 'the present action of the navy in time of peace now admitting it' (p. 36), and, on May 18, 'the Court being gone to Windsor,' it was decided to have one weekly meeting, on Wednesdays, 'there or at Hampton Court,' and another on Saturdays at Derby House (p. 47). On August 7, 1675, the meetings were fixed for Saturdays only (p. 207); and later on, by resolution of December 24, 1677, Thursdays were to be the days of the public meetings of the Admiralty 'till further order' (p. 558). As appears from the list printed on pp. cxxi-cxxviii below, meetings of the Commission were held at intervals which are not exactly accounted for by these formal regulations,¹ and there were two long intermissions due to the claims of attendance at Parliament upon the time of the Admiralty Commissioners. From October 30 to November 20, 1675 (p. 243), and again from September 28, 1678, to January 4, 1678-9 (p. 613), no meetings were held, or minutes recorded in the 'Journal.'

The attendances of the Commissioners for the last six months of 1673, before their proceedings were recorded in a separate book, have been already analysed.² An examination of those entered in the 'Journal' shews that at first the Lord Privy Seal (Anglesey) and the Vice-Chamberlain (Carteret) continued to be the most regular, but if the whole period covered by the 'Journal' is brought under review the highest record of attendances belongs to the King, whose unexpected devotion to routine business proves

¹ The *Journal* evidently includes minutes of meetings other than the 'public meetings.'

² *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. ii. p. ix.

the genuineness of his interest in naval affairs. The two Secretaries of State, Coventry and Williamson, come next ; Prince Rupert's record is respectable ; the Duke of Monmouth's is easily the worst.¹ The Earl of Essex, as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, is entered as having been present at three meetings, although he was never a member of the Commission. The presence of James Duke of York is also thrice recorded, but an entry in Pepys's ' Miscellanies ' (xi. 223) suggests that after the renewal of the Commission in 1677 he was frequently present (p. 519 *n.*), although the minute-book makes no mention of the fact.

At a large number of the meetings of the Board of Admiralty the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy were present in attendance, and thus an intimate personal connexion was maintained between the Admiralty which decided naval policy and the Navy Board which carried it out. But the office practice of reducing everything to writing had so far established itself that letters and reports from the Navy Officers were regularly read at the Board of Admiralty, although the Officers themselves were present. An account of the composition of the Navy Board during this period has been given in a previous volume.²

Their Commission did not transfer to the Lords

¹ The figures for the period covered by the *Journal* are : Out of 308 meetings, the King, 195 ; Coventry, 186 ; Lord Privy Seal, 173 ; Prince Rupert, 164 ; Lord Treasurer, 153 ; Carteret, 137 ; Ormonde, 104 ; Arlington, 100 ; Lord Keeper, 99 ; Seymour, 91 ; Lauderdale, 87 ; Monmouth, 77. Of the later additions Sir Joseph Williamson attended 188 meetings out of 251 ; the Earl of Craven 132, and Lord Ossory 62, out of 200 ; Sir John Ernle 38, and Sir Thomas Chicheley 23, out of 66 ; and the Earl of Sunderland 6 out of 8.

² *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 40-2.

of the Admiralty the whole of the powers hitherto exercised by James Duke of York as Lord High Admiral of England. The King retained the Admiralty dues, and himself disposed of all offices and employments in the navy (p. 633); but entries in the 'Journal' shew that Admiralty powers outside England were still in the hands of the Duke. A minute of May 13, 1674, implies that it was an open question whether his authority in Barbados had been impaired by the issue of the Commission (p. 45); on November 27, 1675, 'it was considered that the Admiralty of Tangier lying not within the jurisdiction of their Lordships (which is restrained to England),' the reference to them of a case arising there was misdirected (p. 249), and a few days later it was stated that the matter remained 'still within the inspection of his Royal Highness as Admiral in all places out of this kingdom' (p. 253).

In connexion with Admiralty jurisdiction a few other points also arise. In December 1674 a vessel was seized in the Thames, near the Tower, and it was argued that she was not riding at the time of her capture within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty, but in that either of Kent or Middlesex, 'according to the side of the River on which she lay' (p. 115), in opposition to the contention of the Admiralty lawyers that 'the river of Thames as high as London Bridge was wholly within the jurisdiction of the Lord High Admiral of England' (p. 122). In 1676 Lord FitzWalter claimed 'the entire jurisdiction' of the river of Burnham in Essex, 'to the prejudice of his Majesty's title to the same' (p. 324), and a Court

of Vice-Admiralty was held at Burnham to determine the question of title (pp. 345, 369, 381) and to settle a dispute between Lord FitzWalter and the fishermen of Walfleet connected with it (pp. 324, 388, 391, 395). This led the Secretary of the Admiralty, at a meeting on December 23, 1676, at which the King was present, to make some reflections upon Charles II's fatal good-nature, regarding this as 'but one particular instance of the many ill effects of his Majesty's being prevailed with to grant away (as a thing of course in common with other things) the rights of wrecks, deodands, and other benefits pertaining to the Admiral upon the sea coasts without the privity of the Admiral'¹; and it was ordered 'that general *caveats* should be lodged with the Secretaries of State, Attorney-General, and Signet and Privy Seal officers, that no grants do pass from his Majesty of anything wherein the Admiral's right or authority is concerned till the Admiral¹ is first acquainted therewith, as the Lord Treasurer and other Great Officers respectively are in what appertains to their affairs' (p. 388). References also occur to the Vice-Admiralty jurisdiction: in particular to the successful attempt of the City of Bristol, relying on a royal grant of 14 Car. I, to exclude in certain cases the Vice-Admiral of Somerset from jurisdiction within their liberties and to hold Courts of Vice-Admiralty of their own (pp. 93, 270, 274, 281, 283); and to the difficulty experienced in persuading the Vice-Admirals of the counties, 'being for the most part of great

¹ *I.e.* the Admiralty Commission; *cf.* the reference on p. 56 below to 'my Lords the present Lord Admiral.'

quality' (p. 275), to regularise their proceedings by taking out new commissions instead of continuing to act under those granted by the Duke of York (pp. 56, 58, 141, 274).

The minutes entered in the 'Journal' contain many references to public events. The removal of the King's subjects and their effects from Surinam, in accordance with the treaty with the Dutch, an episode which bulks largely in the 'Admiralty Letters,'¹ is also referred to in the minutes (pp. 27, 35, 73, 78), from which it appears that the number of persons to be transported thence to other plantations was estimated at about 1300, 'besides utensils for twenty sugar-workers' (p. 82), and of these, 1200 were destined for Jamaica (p. 94). There are also references to the naval preparations for the suppression of Bacon's rebellion in Virginia, which involved the dispatch of over 1000 troops (pp. 356, 357, 366), and an embargo, in force during October and November 1676, upon all ships going to Virginia (pp. 356, 376, 377, 383). Sir John Berry was to be in command of the expedition, with full powers 'in all matters relating to sea service,' but two military officers, Colonels Morrison and Jeffreys, were associated with him 'in reference to land affairs' (p. 374).² On March 28, 1677, he was able to send home news of the 'total suppression' of the rebellion (p. 417).

The 'Journal' throws some light upon our relations with the predatory powers in the Mediterranean, and the difficulties encountered from

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. ii. p. xvi; vol. iii. p. xxiv.

² See also pp. 358, 360, 361, 364, 377, 378.

privateering nearer home. As early as September 1674 complaints were received from the merchants 'of the injuries they suffer and are further exposed to from those of Sallee,' and two ships were assigned for their protection (p. 65). In October Sir John Narbrough was directed to Algiers 'for the redemption of the slaves there,' and thence to Tunis and Tripoli 'for ratifying the last treaty of peace with those two Governments' (p. 69), but amicable relations with Tripoli were interrupted by the seizure of two merchant-ships of value, and Narbrough's later instructions contemplated a display of force with a demand for restitution (pp. 97-8, 164). In March 1675 this resulted in an open rupture (pp. 174, 179), and Malta was chosen as the place of rendezvous of the fleet (p. 181). The war with Tripoli was entered upon with reluctance (p. 188), but it was pursued with energy and success. A blockade of the place was established (p. 216), and by the beginning of August the Tripolines, although they 'absolutely refused' restitution 'in money or heads,' offered it in salt, 'which Sir John Narbrough thought not worth his Majesty's taking,' and suggested the liberation of the Christian slaves there, 'though few the King's subjects,' remarking 'that beside the laudableness of it in itself, nothing could be of more public honour to his Majesty among foreign princes than his taking for satisfaction from the Tripolines their setting at liberty so many Christians, though not his own subjects' (p. 225). This humane proposal received the approval of the Board of Admiralty (*ib.*). On February 20, 1675-6, Narbrough was able to report

the success of what the minutes refer to as the 'Tripoli action,'—the 'burning 4 ships of war, all that were then within the port at Tripoli, by boats sent in the night with fireworks from his ships, under the command of Lieutenant Cloudisly Shovell, his second lieutenant' (p. 295),¹ and on March 5 a satisfactory peace was signed (pp. 300, 302) by the terms of which 80,000 pieces of eight, paid 'in slaves and brimstone,' were to be received as reparation (p. 426).

The allusions in the 'Journal' to the war with Algiers do not provide materials for a continuous narrative, but some of them are highly significant. On July 13, 1676, the King was taking into consideration complaints from the merchants of 'the Algerines carrying in ships,' and 'the suspicion thereupon grounded of their purpose of violating the peace with us' (p. 329); although the view was expressed that 'the present condition' of the King's treasure 'will not allow of his coming to any immediate resolutions of war with that people' (p. 339). On October 1, after consultation with Sir John Narbrough, who had just returned to England, the Officers of the Navy were directed to frame an estimate of the charge of preparing and setting forth to sea against Algiers a fleet of three 3rd-rates, eight 4th-rates, four 5th-rates, six fireships, and four double shallops (p. 356), although preparations were to be respited 'till more perfect news from Algiers shall arrive of their carrying in any ships of ours that have passes' (p. 357). From this point the minute-

¹ On the scale of rewards given to the officers and men engaged in this exploit, see pp. 333, 373, 396, 398, 437, 452.

book is silent until June 9, 1677, when the seizure of another English ship in violation of treaty was reported to the Admiralty (p. 439), and the Consul at Algiers was instructed to press for her restitution (p. 449) and Sir John Narbrough to demand satisfaction (p. 450). On June 22 a report from the Consul was read of the seizure of five more vessels, 'expressly contrary to our treaty,' 'from whence he seems to apprehend that that people mean a breach with us,' and after full debate the resolution was taken that 'notwithstanding the far spending of the year, the notice requisite to be given,¹ the smallness of our strength abroad, unreadiness to spare any force from hence, the lowness of our provisions here and the like both of provisions and stores abroad,' Sir John Narbrough should be sent to Algiers 'to demand full restitution, and upon denial thereof to declare war,' 'the importance of it to his Majesty's honour to see justice done to his subjects by these people making it necessary for his Majesty to appear speedy and vigorous in this matter, though to the contracting upon him the charge of a war, and present prejudice to him in his customs' (p. 455).

In connexion with the naval preparations which followed, two points of interest arise. (1) On November 10, 1677, 'debate' was 'had of the requisiteness of furnishing his Majesty's ships employed against the Turks with some landmen to do the service of small shot, that being a particular wherein the Turks do principally annoy us, and the English seamen being said rarely to arrive at being good marksmen with their small

¹ *I.e.* to the merchants.

shot' (p. 522); and snipers were accordingly drafted on board ship out of various regiments and garrisons to meet this need (pp. 525, 533). (2) The selection of a naval base for operations in the Straits gave rise to some discussion. Sir John Narbrough proposed that his fleet should be re-victualled at Plymouth or Portsmouth (p. 502), 'as being nearer his principal intended station of the Straits' mouth than Livorne' (p. 548). The Officers of the Navy were ordered to report on Lisbon (p. 506), and the Admiralty were at first in favour of this (pp. 515, 548, 553), but in the end they appear to have settled upon Port Mahon (p. 564).

In December 1677 the question was raised of the disposal of the slaves and renegades taken from the Turks. Narbrough was authorised to sell the slaves 'at the first and best market he can,' but the disposal of the renegades was reserved for his Majesty's pleasure, 'they being not anywhere a marketable commodity among Christian princes' (p. 538). Eventually his 'hanging or otherwise disposing of' them was left to his discretion (p. 548).

The complex administrative questions arising in connexion with the passes granted to ships under the treaties with the Mediterranean powers have been fully discussed elsewhere,¹ and the numerous references in the 'Journal'² raise few new points of importance. On February 8, 1674-5, the Board of Admiralty discussed with the Com-

¹ *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. pp. xviii-xxiv.

² Besides the references in the text, see pp. 170, 208, 233, 244, 258, 272-3, 334, 349, 350, 351, 363-4, 366, 370, 379, 417, 453, 457, 487, 495, 538.

missioners of the Customs ' the subject of passes and the prevention of the abuses thereof,' and the minute of the debate (pp. 143-5) throws some light on the methods adopted at that date and the points at which they were susceptible of improvement. Sir John Narbrough complained of ' the undue practices of his Majesty's subjects (merchants) abroad in the owning of foreign ships, and thereupon giving them title to the wearing of his Majesty's colours, to the endangering a breach some time or other with the Turks ' (p. 189), and it was proposed to issue a proclamation ' for the preventing the said evil ' (pp. 189, 259, 262). It was also agreed that a ' constant register ' of all passes granted should be kept in the Admiralty Office (pp. 195, 197), and a form of certificate provided ' which may comprehend all the circumstances whereto satisfaction is to be given upon the granting of any passes, thereby to render all the passes uniform and fully satisfactory ' (p. 196) ; and to prevent ' the abuses incident to the employing of our passes to the Straits on strangers' ships and the counterfeiting of passes,' they were to be ' printed and indented as they heretofore were ' (pp. 246, 262). The validity of passes was to be limited to one year,¹ the year and date being ' hereafter expressed in words and not in figures ' (p. 262) ; and each ship was to deliver up her pass at the end of the voyage (p. 270). The Board also took in hand the abuses connected with denization (pp. 221, 252, 258).

On August 12, 1676, ' for the greater security of such of their Lordships as may be called

¹ See also pp. 290, 293.

on to sign passes without having opportunity of examining thoroughly and so informing themselves personally in all the points needful to be ascertained in the granting of a pass,' the Secretary of the Admiralty was instructed 'to countersign the said passes before they be offered to their Lordships to sign, as thereby charging himself with his having duly examined the same' (p. 340). This additional duty thrown upon the Secretary supplied him with material of defence when on May 19, 1677, a debate arose on the high fees charged for passes (p. 427). It has been sometimes assumed that only by extensive corruption could Pepys have accumulated his respectable fortune out of a salary as Secretary of £500 a year ; but there were perquisites attached to this office. The Secretary's fee for each pass was 25s., 'which he claimed as his due, as being lower than was anciently and as low as was at any time ever taken by his predecessors without any complaint ever made of it.' 'To which,' the minute continues, 'Mr. Speaker observing that, whatever it was formerly, it is now complained of as too much, when some said 8000, but it was generally taken for granted in the House that 4000 passes went through my hand in a year, and that therefore it had been proposed that 10s. might be thought a sufficient fee to the Secretary of the Admiralty for a pass. To which Mr. Pepys replied, that whatever the number is, his right to his fee is neither more nor less, but that nevertheless his number of passes instead of 8000 or 4000 has not arisen to 1000 per annum since his coming into the Admiralty, though his labour in the previous

scrutinies and examinations to the granting of a pass is by the late rules made five times more than it ever heretofore was; he humbly submitted himself to his Majesty as to the continuance of his said fee, or allowing him compensation for it in case he thinks it for his service to have it taken away. Upon which his Majesty was pleased to say that he saw no reason for the having it taken away' (pp. 427-8). The Secretary of the Admiralty also received fees on the renewal of the commissions of the Vice-Admirals of counties (p. 274).

In this period the English merchants suffered many things at the hands of privateers. The Ostend capers were a constant source of annoyance, carrying in and detaining English merchantships bound for Dunkirk, 'and using several violencies to our masters and mariners¹ in order to the gaining from them the confession of other interests in the ships and loadings than that of his Majesty's subjects' (p. 39). There were also complaints from the merchants of the subsequent denial of justice to ships so carried in (p. 110), and an enquiry was ordered into 'the method and reasonableness of the proceedings of the Admiralty Court there' (p. 111). On May 10, 1674, the Roebuck was appointed 'as a standing convoy for protection of our merchantmen against Ostenders' (p. 44); and three years later, on June 2, 1677, a naval demonstration before Ostend was determined upon, 'for the forcing that place to

¹ One unfortunate master had burning matches put between his fingers (p. 43). Cf. the 'inhumane usage' received by a captain and his mate from two small frigates at Biscay (p. 112).

make reparation for the injuries by them done in the undue carrying in and confiscating the vessels and goods of his Majesty's subjects' (p. 435). At the end of August (p. 488) the ships were recalled, 'upon intimation of the people of that place being become more respectful towards his Majesty,' and that 'the lying of the said ships before Ostend did conduce very much to the keeping the said people in awe' (p. 489); but although the demonstrating squadron was thus withdrawn, the ships cruising in the Channel were instructed 'still to interrupt and bring in their privateers as formerly' (*ib.*). Besides the Ostend capers, we hear of a Dutch caper (p. 52), of Majorcans (pp. 95, 109, 218), and more particularly of French privateers (pp. 128, 219, 256, 316, 320, 439).

On August 28, 1675, 'the whole business of the outrages committed upon his Majesty's subjects by the ships of neighbour princes was in general discoursed,' and Mr. Pepys was instructed to 'recollect the several particular complaints of this kind that have been brought to the Admiralty, with the informations sufficient to discover and convict the offender, and cause the same to be communicated to the several proper ports and commanders of ships bound out to sea in courses proper for meeting the said offenders, with instructions to seize thereon and bring them into some port within his Majesty's dominions, there to be prosecuted for satisfaction' (p. 213). On May 20, 1676, orders were issued for the King's ships 'to cruise in the Channel and bring in all French and Spanish privateers' (p. 316), and this

appears to have been followed by Orders in Council which remained in force until November 14, 1677 (p. 525). The privateers brought in were to be detained for seven days, and then if no complaint was made against them they were to be discharged (p. 323). At the end of August, 1676, the Board of Admiralty was still considering what could be done 'for the preventing our ships receiving any further interruptions from the French capers,' the French Ambassador 'undertaking that any reasonable thing should be done by his master therein' (p. 346).

It should be noted that although foreign privateers carrying a regular commission had a legal status, for English subjects to be serving on board them was an offence punishable with imprisonment (pp. 321, 350, 354, 359).

The practice of privateering and the wars in the Mediterranean combined to throw upon the navy the obligation of providing convoy. There are traces in particular of a project for a system of organized convoys to the Mediterranean, drawn up in 1677 by, or with the advice of, the merchants concerned, so as to avoid 'an unnecessary enhancing of his Majesty's charge by the multiplying of uncertain and promiscuous convoys' (pp. 537, 549). In this connexion an observation of Sir John Narbrough's is worth quoting. He complained 'of merchant-vessels exposing themselves in the Mediterranean without convoy, not only to their own great hazard, but to the drawing clamour upon the King and his officers in case of miscarriage, whereas they may have convoy if they regularly ask for it' (p. 576). The English

seaman's distrust of routine and readiness to take risks are characteristics which survived until the Great War.

Attention was also given by the Board of Admiralty to fishery protection, which may be regarded as a special form of convoy. Complaints were received from the fishermen of Hastings that they were 'interrupted therein by the French vessels coming over, contrary to practice, without licence, and with unlawful nets' (p. 390). The matter was regarded as falling within the jurisdiction of the Cinque Ports and not of the Admiralty, but orders were given that ships should be sent to warn the French fishermen off our coasts (pp. 410, 468). In addition to the usual arrangements for the protection of the herring-fishery (p. 258), which were not always quite satisfactory (p. 613), special measures were taken in 1679, at the request of the merchants, to strengthen the convoy 'for the present year's fishery at Newfoundland' (p. 651), and to put an end by proclamation to 'the great wrong his Majesty's honour has been generally exposed to and losses the merchants have sustained in former years by the liberty taken by the masters of the fish-ships either to depart from Newfoundland before their convoys or leaving them in their voyage in order to the coming earlier than the rest to their market' (p. 663).

A curious illustration of the suspicion engendered by the Dutch attack upon the Medway in June 1667 appears in a minute of December 12, 1676. Advices came from Portsmouth 'of several Dutch men-of-war putting in there on their return

from the Straits for shelter during the present season, the frost not suffering them to go into their own ports' (p. 384). A meeting of the Lords was therefore 'purposely called' on the same day for 'the consideration of the safety of his Majesty's ships against any mischief that may be done thereto by surprise,' Colonel Legge, the Governor of Portsmouth, attending. It was decided to inform the Dutch Ambassador 'that it would in every respect be more convenient that the States' ships should repair to Plymouth, where they might lie in every respect as safe and commodiously as at Portsmouth, and be supplied as easily with all they stand in want of' (*ib.*); the ostensible reason assigned for this being the danger of a collision between the Dutch crews and those of some French merchant-ships which had come into Portsmouth before them. Meanwhile steps were taken to put matters 'into a posture of safety' at Portsmouth by arming boats, mounting guns upon two of the ships lying there in ordinary, and entering 'some seamen extraordinary' 'for watching on board the King's ships during this occasion' (p. 387). On January 20, 1676-7, it was reported to the Board that the Dutch ships 'are now departed' (p. 392), but the work of arming Portsmouth harbour was still carried on (pp. 417, 421, 499), and similar steps were taken for securing the Medway (pp. 418, 421).

The preparations for a war with France, which began to threaten in December 1677 (p. 558), are also the subject of numerous references in the 'Journal.' On January 8, 1677-8, Sir John Narbrough is 'cautioned to have a special eye

to the French'; Mr. Pepys is directed 'forthwith to advertise privately some members of the Turkey Company, in behalf of the whole, to take it into their consideration the state of their affairs within the Mediterranean with respect to what their concernments may require upon supposition of a surprise in that sea from France'; and the importation of 'sail-cloth, rosin, and other naval commodities that are to be fetched from France' is to be hastened, 'that they may be secured before any rupture with that Crown shall be declared' (p. 564). The victuallers also are 'to go on vigorously with their preparations (*ib.*). On January 20 arrangements were made for utilising Sir John Narbrough's fleet for the purposes of convoy in the Mediterranean, 'out of a prospect of war with France' (pp. 567-8). There are also references to the pressing of men (pp. 567, 570, 571); to a general embargo on ships (p. 571) with certain exceptions—colliers, store-ships and victualling-vessels (p. 572), 'ships bound to Norway and the Baltic for masts, timber, pitch, tar, plank, &c.' (p. 578), and Scotch ships (p. 572) and vessels bound to Ireland (p. 584); to the gunning and manning of hired merchant men-of-war and the appointment of commanders to them (p. 575); and to the hastening of the repairs of the King's ships (p. 584). Fresh measures were also taken for the security of Portsmouth harbour (pp. 567, 603, 605, 646, 660).

The minutes register the progress of the naval arrangements for the transportation of land-forces to the Continent. On March 11, 1677-8, the Officers of the Navy were instructed 'to consider

of the means necessary for the embarking of an army for Flanders from Harwich, the River, and Dover, and what may be requisite to send up the Scheldt ' (p. 570). On April 13 embarkation was ordered to be provided for 5000 horse at Dover and Gravesend for Antwerp, and for 1100 men ' to be shipped off from Dover, Margate, and Deal ' (p. 578). On April 27 we hear of 1400 men for Ostend (p. 581) ; on July 20 of 2500 men and horse for the Scheldt (p. 587) ; on July 27 of 1000 horse to be transported ' with all speed ' (p. 591) ; and on August 25 there is a reference to 1600 horse (p. 602) destined for Antwerp (pp. 600, 605). It is, however, not quite clear whether these figures all refer to different contingents.

As early as March arrangements had been under consideration with Evertsen, the Dutch Admiral, ' upon foresight of a conjunction between our fleets and those of Holland,' concerning ' striking the flag, salutes, and magazines ' (p. 571 ; see also p. 573), and at the beginning of April a minute refers to ' the great fleet now setting forth ' (p. 576) ; but the storm was not destined to break. On July 7 the victuallers' preparations were stopped ' till further more certain knowledge can be had touching war or peace ' (p. 587), although Sir John Narbrough in the Mediterranean was warned to ' look to himself and the fleet under him with the same circumspection as if a war with the King of France were yet to happen ' (p. 586). On August 1 it was thought that the issue of peace or war would be ' certainly known within a week ' (p. 594), and on August 8 the continuance of peace was assumed by the Board of Admiralty (p. 598),

and the decision was taken to deliver back to their owners the hired merchantmen 'as fast as may be' (p. 599). At the end of the month there was a temporary renewal of uncertainty (p. 604), but from September 8 peace was again regarded as assured. The vessels taken up for transporting the horse to Antwerp were ordered to be all discharged (p. 606), and it was resolved 'that instructions be sent to Sir John Narbrough to bend his whole force and care now to the business of Algiers, but with particular caution to be given him by Mr. Pepys to continue a watchfulness towards the French' (*ib.*). On September 15 the complements of ships at home were reduced to the peace scale, 'the state of affairs now admitting it' (p. 608). At the beginning of 1679 preparations for the return of the land-forces from Flanders came under consideration (p. 614), although their evacuation appears to have been delayed, partly by 'the dangerousness of the season for the great ships to lie without, off of Ostend' (p. 628). Towards the middle of January, however, fresh reports were spread abroad 'touching the French King's naval preparations, and designs of attempting something upon this or the kingdom of Ireland' (p. 631; also p. 644), and Sir John Narbrough was ordered home, as if these designs should be real, his remaining in the Straits would be 'no other than the plain exposing of that part of our naval force to be overpowered by the French in that sea, and the robbing of this kingdom of the benefit of it here' (p. 631). The King, who had the best reasons for knowing the true state of the relations between England and

France (see p. 573, note 3), was sceptical (pp. 645, 659), but the Board of Admiralty resolved to be on the safe side, and on April 19 they ordered a concentration of force in home waters (p. 660). Two days later they had ceased to hold office (p. 664).

The Board of Admiralty was called upon more than once during this period to maintain the neutrality of English ports. In June 1675 a French privateer chased an Ostender into Hythe, 'continuing to annoy her there with his shot, to the prejudice of the town (into which several of the shot flew)' and was detained in the custody of the Governor of Dover (p. 187). Two Swedish ships were also seized by a 'private man-of-war'¹ belonging to the Elector of Brandenburg, 'within the limits of his Majesty's ports'; and this was declared by Sir Leoline Jenkins, the Judge of the Court of Admiralty, 'to be a violence to the honour of his Majesty's sovereignty and the protection due to all ships of what nation soever while within his ports' (p. 194). In September a 'rencontre' took place at Rye 'between a French shallop and some Dutch boats belonging to a fleet of Dutch merchantmen, the said boats coming into Rye for provisions for the said fleet, and in conclusion taking and carrying away the said Frenchman, several shot passing from the town during the said rencontre in order to the compelling them to cease from any acts of hostility within his Majesty's harbour, but the Dutch carrying away the Frenchman prisoner and the fleet sailing rendered the same ineffectual' (p. 219).

¹ *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2428.

On the other hand, in March 1679 an apology had to be made to the Dutch for a violation of their territorial waters through Captain Trevanion 'shooting at a Holland's East Indiaman within their own streams, as being within almost a gunshot of the pier-head of Flushing, to the great dissatisfaction of the States' (p. 647).

The right of search for English subjects serving in foreign ships was also jealously maintained. In December 1675 the action of an English commander against the admiral of a Dutch squadron of merchant-ships in the Downs in 'forcing the said admiral by firing at him and placing several shot in him to deliver up 4 Englishmen who had by letter applied themselves to him to that purpose' was upheld by the Board, 'as being constant to his duty and instructions' (p. 251); and the same line was taken in March 1677 when the Dutch Ambassador complained of the action of Sir Robert Robinson in 'demanding some English seamen serving in a man-of-war of the States now at Cadiz' (p. 407). In November 1677 the Dutch again challenged the right 'lately exercised by some of our captains, of going on board and searching of the ships of foreign princes, both men-of-war and others and in foreign ports, and taking thence what subjects of his Majesty's are found thereon' (p. 532); and after evidence of the antiquity of the practice had been produced, it was resolved that 'neither his Majesty's honour, the weal of the service, his right to the power of restraining his subjects, the securing of foreign princes, nor the preserving to ourselves the principal advantages which this

nation has over its neighbours in the number and quality of our seamen, will admit of his Majesty's parting with this which has been the ancient practice of searching of foreign ships and taking thence what of his Majesty's subjects shall be found there contrary to his proclamation' (p. 533).

The Admiralty Commission of 1673 came to an end on April 21, 1679. The adoption of the scheme for a new Privy Council, to represent at once landed wealth and 'the conflicting interests of office and opposition,'¹ which originated with Sir William Temple, necessitated the dissolution of the old Privy Council, and the Admiralty Commission went with it (p. 665). An episode of January 1678-9 suggests that the King may have had reasons of his own for welcoming the change. At an extraordinary meeting held on the last day of the month, the Lords perused the Commission and instructions under which they acted, and observed that although 'the only powers of the Lord High Admiral reserved by this Commission from their Lordships to his Majesty' were those 'of granting offices and employments, and the benefits of the profits belonging to the Admiral,' yet nevertheless his Majesty had been 'pleased to issue most orders relating to the disposal of his fleets and ships at sea from his own hand, without their privity' (p. 633), and their Lordships thought themselves 'incapable of rendering the account which may be expected from them as Admirals, unless all designs and orders for execution be communicated to them.' They therefore

¹ See *D. N. B.*, lvi. 47.

called for a comprehensive report from Mr. Pepys 'of the state of the navy in all the principal parts of it as it stands at this day.' This challenge was met on the following day by a blank refusal on the part of the King, who 'was pleased to declare that the proceedings upon any such inquiries into the state of the navy would be at this time inconvenient for his service, by hazarding the too great exposal of the present ill condition thereof, and thereupon to direct that their further proceedings thereon should be respited till further order' (p. 635).

2. FINANCE ¹

At the close of the Third Dutch War the Government found itself confronted with problems singularly like those of 1918, although from the modern point of view they were on a very diminutive scale. The fleet had to be demobilised, ships paid off, the personnel reduced both at sea and in the yards; and the paramount duty of retrenchment in the navy had to be reconciled with adequate provision for widows and orphans and the discharge of obligations to maimed seamen, which were fully recognised (p. 17).

An attempt was made to revert to the scheme of Sir William Coventry, adopted in 1669, 'though never yet obtained,' for reducing the charge of the navy to £200,000 per annum (p. 22). This scheme floats like a mirage through the 'Journal'

¹ See also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 98-116; vol. ii. pp. xvi-xviii; vol. iii. pp. xxvii-xxviii.

(pp. 50, 71, 257), but never comes anywhere within reach. On November 24, 1677, the Lord Treasurer 'was pleased to take notice to the King that he has issued this year the sum of £509,000 upon the account of the navy, over and above the moneys paid upon the score of the new ships' (p. 534); and a year later the 'project for future service' was reckoned to require about £400,000 per annum, 'besides the ordinary estimate of the navy, and all other extraordinary charges' (p. 609).

Careful and efficient as the Admiralty Commission of 1673-9 shewed itself to be, it was grievously hampered during its whole period of office by shortness of money. On February 28, 1673-4, reference is made to the 'daily clamour of widows and orphans arising from the non-payment of his Majesty's bounty to them' (p. 13); and on March 7 to 'the clamours of Chatham yard for money' (p. 19). On March 21 complaint is made of 'the great growing charge at present upon his Majesty from the excessive numbers of men in pay, both at sea and in the yards, beyond either what his Majesty's service in time of peace doth call for, or the present state of his Majesty's stores would employ, or the condition of his treasure admit of the purchasing of stores for' (p. 28); and the Lords, actuated by a genuine sympathy for the 'poor seamen' to whom in war they had owed so much, shewed themselves very reluctant to pay them in depreciated tickets instead of ready money, if money could by any possibility be found (p. 18). The workmen in the yards presented a less perplexing problem, as those

of them who were discharged 'without present payment of their arrears,' might, 'by the plenty of work which will be to be found in merchants' yards, support themselves with the help of their arrears from the King coming in quarterly, which the Officers of the Navy are to give the said workmen assurance of' (p. 29). On May 2 the Officers of the Navy reported to the Lords 'that they were at a full stop, and had so for some time been, in the business of their Office for want of money, declaring their not having received any supply thereof for any of the daily and contingent expenses of their Office, whether for stores, bills of exchange, salaries, pilotage, or for any other use than that of the wages of ships and yards and for the relief of widows and orphans, from some time in February last' (p. 40), 'having not wherewith to pay for the postage of letters' (p. 46). On October 18 Sir Thomas Clutterbuck 'opened' before the Board 'the difficulties he lies under here for want of his moneys' (p. 69); on November 28 the Commissioners for Sick and Wounded represent 'the state of the arrear due and the distressed condition of many poor creditors to whom the said arrear remains unsatisfied upon the account of their Commission' (p. 99); and at the same meeting some merchants of London 'pray speedy payment, or at least allowance for interest during their remaining unsatisfied, for hemp and other goods by them sold to the navy at prices (as they say) very low, upon promise of ready money' (p. 101). Futile solicitation of the Lord Treasurer was the only remedy which the Board could offer.

On June 19, 1675, the Officers of the Navy inform the Lords 'in the great want of stores in all his Majesty's yards, with the scarcity of them to be had, the only fitness of the present season for the providing and bringing them in, and their inability without money to do the same, the credit being low' (pp. 192, 223). On May 6, 1676, Lord Brouncker, the Comptroller of the Treasurer's accounts, reported that the monthly payments promised to the navy were £50,000 in arrear and the weekly £10,000 (p. 312); on December 16 'several pursers' petitioned for 'relief under their want of the payment of the balances of their accounts, to the urging many of them to sell their bills 8s. per £ less' (p. 386); and on July 7, 1677, there is a further reference to 'his Majesty's present straits for money' (p. 467).

In 1678 the position was much aggravated by the extensive preparations against France, notwithstanding the assistance afforded by a Parliamentary grant. On March 31 the Lord Treasurer made mention 'of the ships which were lately said to be capable of being set forth to sea for the sum of £35,000,' but 'Mr. Pepys noted that the same would have been done had the said sum been made good, of which not one farthing was yet paid, adding how many merchant-ships are also taken up, but all stand still for want of money' (p. 573). On April 6 the Lord Treasurer announces 'that he purposes speedily to go into the City to answer the difficulties made to the lending of money therein' (p. 577). An effort was made to pay off the 1st and 2nd-rate ships and the hired merchantmen, but much difficulty was anticipated

in the raising of the money, and the Officers of the Navy were warned 'that there will be a necessity that no other works, either new or old (saving the new ships), be gone in hand with' (p. 598).¹ On January 4, 1678-9, the Officers of the Navy gave 'several particular and pressing instances of their want of money to enable them to carry on his Majesty's service,' and Sir Anthony Deane 'opened it largely to his Majesty and my Lords that if the victuallers be not forthwith satisfied, the ships both abroad and at home must (whatever the occasion of his Majesty's service be) be forced to come in for want of victuals' (pp. 614-15).² In answer to these complaints, the Lord Treasurer could only dwell on 'the want of money occasioned by the great expense upon the land-forces continuing still in pay, to the rendering his Majesty's treasure wholly unable to answer all the occasions demanding supplies from the same' (p. 616). 'The great and only reliance for money for the removing of these difficulties was upon the Parliament, to whom the same, when seasonable, must be represented' (p. 645), for the King's ordinary revenue was quite unequal to meeting the demands upon it, and he was even obliged to go back upon the undertaking which he had given to the House of Commons to meet the cost of an increase in dimensions which he had insisted upon in the new ships,³ remarking that 'as the state of his revenue now stands, he doubts his being able to make his word therein good, other-

¹ An estimate of the same date shewing the cost of repairing and refitting ships in harbour and providing a reserve of stores, amounted to £219,934 15s. (p. 618).

² See also pp. 620, 621.

³ See p. xcv below.

wise than as the Parliament shall put him into a condition for it ' (p. 662).

The shortness of money caused an inevitable waste which only increased the financial stringency and closed the vicious circle. In July 1678 there were 90 ships 'now lying upon his Majesty's charge' (p. 588), and in August it was reported that the bulk of these were 'now remaining in pay at sea for want of money to discharge them' (p. 601). Six months later, on January 11, 1678-9, 'a fresh account was given by Mr. Pepys by particulars of the great number of ships in present pay at sea beyond what there was any apparent present service to be now employed upon, and the growing charge upon the same' (p. 625). To this Mr. Speaker added 'some considerations of the fatal consequence of keeping them all longer in pay and victuals by raising their debt above the King's capacity to discharge,' and Mr. Pepys called attention to the unfitness of those ships which have been so long abroad to answer any real occasions of service that may happen for them in case they shall not be brought home in time to be refitted and cleaned, with their men paid and refreshed' (*ib.* ; also pp. 643, 658).

Surprising instances are to be found in the minutes of long arrears of payment. Ships are in arrear 24 months (p. 303) ; 26 months (p. 96) ; 30 months (p. 132) ; and even 36 months (p. 89). On December 15, 1677, it was ordered 'that 2 years of the 3 said to be in arrear to the Guarland of her wages' be paid 'before her going to the coast of Ireland' (p. 549). In December 1674

‘ George Pley of Weymouth, merchant,’ was claiming damages for losses incurred upon bills of exchange ‘ through failure on his Majesty’s part of making him payment according to contract for sail-cloth by him delivered to the value of about £70,000 in the year 1665 for the use of the navy ’ ; but their Lordships, ‘ considering the consequences of the precedent should they take upon them the satisfying all the claims that might be made for loss sustained by untimely payment of tradesmen whilst at the same time also so much remains at this day unsatisfied to many of the very principal due to them for goods served in ’ (p. 116), declined to shew him any special favour (p. 128). In December 1677 application was being made for the payment of tickets dating back to 1665–6 (p. 552) ; and in April 1679 Captain Langley, commander of the packet-boats at Harwich, was ‘ praying satisfaction for the passage and victuals of soldiers ’ brought over by him from Holland during the last four years and a half (p. 658). On March 25, 1679, reference was being made to ‘ the great debt now due to the yards, being twelve months in arrear,’ which resulted in little work being done there, ‘ from the discouragement the workmen lie under from the want of their pay, it being with difficulty that they are kept from mutiny ’ (p. 644). In the midst of these greater anxieties the fact that ‘ Mr. Serjeant Trumpet ’ was ‘ soliciting in behalf of himself and the rest of the trumpets for present payment of what is in arrear to them for their service at the launching of ships ’ (p. 397) must have seemed a small matter.

During this period there were one or two improvements in financial organisation. At the first meeting of the Commission, on January 3, 1673-4, 'Mr. Speaker presents a project of a method for the improving the rules now in being for the better methodizing the course of payment of navy bills' (p. 2) ; and after amendment at the suggestion of the Navy Board, this was approved and ordered to be put in practice (p. 23). It appears from an entry of April 29, 1676, relating to bills made out to pursers upon the balance of their victualing-accounts, that the bills were numbered for 'payment in course' (p. 311). Some of these bills still awaiting payment were 'for accounts which determined before the 1st of January '71' (p. 310).

On September 18, 1675, the Lord Treasurer 'doubted that the charge of the navy was subject to much miscalculation from their not keeping strictly to the use of estimates, but adventuring upon works either beyond or without them, and without sufficient debate first had at this Board of the necessity of the said works to be gone in hand with' (p. 223) ; to which Mr. Pepys 'humbly' noted 'to their Lordships that he did not remember that any, or at least any considerable work has ever been proceeded upon without the orders of their Lordships upon full debate had touching the same, the King for the most part being also present, and estimates prepared and signed by the Officers of the Navy as also signed by their Lordships' (p. 224). On January 15, 1675-6, the Lord Treasurer returned to the charge, and 'was pleased to take notice to his Majesty of

the necessity of bringing again into practice the ancient method of the navy, by which no works upon which any part of his Majesty's treasure is to be issued are to be entered upon without an estimate of the charge thereof first prepared, and signed by the Officers of the Navy, then by the Lord High Admiral, and afterwards presented and approved of by his Majesty in Council, and a privy seal granted thereupon warranting the Lord Treasurer to issue money for the same ' (p. 265). This ' his Majesty was pleased, with the advice of my Lords, fully to agree to and direct both their Lordships and the Officers of the Navy to see duly observed ' (p. 266).¹

A certain Mr. Abraham Parker produced in 1675 a scheme for ' manning and discharging a fleet without money, etc., ' but the Officers of the Navy presented a report ' largely opening their opinion of the vanity ' of his proposal (p. 126) ; and when Mr. Parker renewed his importunities, the Lords expressed themselves ' as being satisfied in the extravagancy and impracticableness of the said proposals, ' suggesting that he should apply himself to the King for a purser's employment, in which he could practise his system of doing without money upon a small scale (p. 155).

The system of financial checks in the navy did not prevent the Navy Board from ' overcasting ' a bill due to Prince Rupert, and paying him £1104 more than was due to him (p. 179). When they stopped further payments to him with a view to getting the money back, his Highness expressed ' dissatisfaction, ' and the

¹ See also pp. 281, 284, 286, 299, 459.

matter was accommodated by describing the overpayment as 'of his Majesty's free gift and bounty' (p. 205).

3. MEN ¹

As the Third Dutch War did not end until the Treaty of Westminster was signed on February 9, 1674, the press was still in operation at the date when the 'Journal' opens. A minute of February 2 records a resolution, 'The impresting of men for supply of the King's ships not to be stopped, notwithstanding the inquiries on foot in Parliament touching that matter' (p. 6); and there was some hesitation about allowing a merchant fleet to start for the Mediterranean 'in reference to the number of men that would be taken for the next year's service by it' (p. 5). But 'the importance of the fleet's going forth, in reference to the poor workmen of England and the keeping up use of the English manufacture abroad, as also to the King in the value of his customs at this necessitous time for money, and the honour of his service that trade should not be stopped' (p. 6) decided the question, and on February 28 peace was proclaimed (p. 11). The unpopularity of the press, even in times of necessity, is shewn by the daily rescue of pressed men 'by force and arms by seamen walking up and down the town for that purpose' (p. 3), and the march, 'in a mutinous manner,' of 'about 100 seamen in a body,' 'with a black flag before them,'

¹ See also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 117-39; vol. ii. pp. xix-xxv; vol. iii. pp. xxviii-xxxiii.

‘ through the City of London as far as Guildhall, assaulting all prestmasters and rescuing of pressed men ’ (p. 5).

In June 1675 the ‘ captains of the ships going out against Sallee ’ reported ‘ the great difficulties they meet with in getting of men, through the greatness of the merchants’ employment and the height of the wages by them given ; so as that the said captains are doubtful of getting their ships manned without much loss of time without pressing, (the expedient of beating up of drums to invite seamen in proving ineffectual, and it being remembered that, on the like occasions of want of men in time of peace at home when there was war abroad, his Majesty has made use of pressing out of ships homewards bound, leaving those outward bound uninterrupted) ’ ; the Board of Admiralty resolved to apply to the King in Council for authority to issue press warrants, ‘ with an exception (at the motion of my Lord Duke of Lauderdale) to the pressing of any Scotchmen ’ (pp. 187-8).

On October 21, 1676, the whole question of pressing was debated at the Board, the point being taken by the Lord Privy Seal that it could only be done by Act of Parliament, ‘ but the same concluded as a power indispensably inherent in the Crown, as that without which the trade and safety of the nation cannot be secured ’ ; and it was ordered ‘ That the old practice be continued of pressing men for the King’s service upon an Order of Council granted upon the Lord Admiral’s signifying to the Council Table the want of the said men for his Majesty’s service ’ (p. 362).

Accordingly on November 4 powers were applied for to press men for the two new galley-frigates (p. 369).

In 1677 the unusual event occurred of pressing in time of peace. On May 1 'his Majesty being informed by Mr. Pepys that though press warrants for seamen have been very rarely granted in time of peace, yet such is the scarcity of men now to be had, through the greatness of the merchant service and wages, that the commanders of the ships now going forth do generally declare that without the help of press warrants they shall not be able in any reasonable time to get their ships to sea, and the season of their being abroad spends apace,' it was ordered 'that a memorial thereof be presented to the Council Table at their next sitting, with the like about press warrants for shipwrights and all other workmen needful for repairing the old and building the new ships' (p. 412). A week later it was ordered, 'as heretofore was usual,' that a commission under the great seal should be issued to each of the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy 'for enabling them from time to time to press workmen and artificers of all sorts for the said two works of repair and new building' (p. 420). The press in this case did not involve the personal violence often associated with it, but only a summons to appear at the yards, and difficulty was experienced in inducing these pressed artificers to obey it, 'some whereof refuse to appear at all, and others appear, but not at the proper yards for which they were pressed' (p. 462). Mr. Betts, the master-shipwright at Harwich, being in need of workmen

for the service of the new ships building there, armed himself with a press warrant from the Officers of the Navy and went to Yarmouth in search of them ; but he met with ' some ill usage ' from the local magistrates, to his ' hindrance and discouragement,' and one of them was summoned to appear before the Council (p. 466) ; but in this case the friction was ended by the grant to the Bailiffs of Yarmouth of a press warrant of their own (pp. 524, 537). Two men who failed to appear at Chatham yard were committed by the Board to the custody of the Marshal of the Admiralty (p. 476) ; and the recalcitrant Yarmouth shipwrights were sent for by the Messenger of the Navy, and after ' acknowledging their error, and offering to repair to and attend upon ' the King's service at Harwich ' as they shall be ordered,' were discharged (p. 539).

The scarcity of seamen ' while so great a merchant trade is going,' led the Admiralty, on October 20, 1677, to instruct the Officers of the Navy ' to consider of giving some help thereto by mixing a convenient proportion of land-soldiers with each hundred of seamen ' (p. 505), and in November (p. 523) and December (p. 539) men were still being pressed from ships homeward bound.

In 1678 the preparations against France continued the necessity for the employment of the press. In January small vessels were to be taken up ' for pressing of men and fetching them from the outports ' (p. 567) ; and in March the ships in the Straits were being raised to their highest complements (pp. 570, 571) and an extension of

the press was under consideration, 'there being a present prospect of action likely to require the same' (p. 570). The press was extended to outward-bound ships (*ib.*); the Navy Officers were again authorised to hire tenders for pressing; ships abroad were to press beyond their own complements 'towards the manning of the ships ordered forth'; and the Council was applied to for 'a proclamation to call home seamen, and instructions to the Vice-Admirals of the marine counties to bring in men' (p. 571). Pressing was stopped on July 7, 'upon some further foresight had of a war not likely to ensue' (p. 587); but in September a few men were still being taken out of merchant-ships (p. 604), which gave some offence, 'and the occasion said to be taken therefrom of the colliers raising the price of coals' (p. 607). The press was now only used upon homeward-bound ships (p. 608), but warrants were still being granted in January 1678-9 (p. 618).

During this period exemptions from pressing were granted to certain classes of persons. Fishermen were regarded as having a strong claim to protections, and in 1677 the mackerel fishermen (p. 420) and in 1678 the crews of the vessels belonging to the Royal Fishery Company (p. 565) were exempted. In 1677 a protection was denied 'to the workmen employed about Paul's' (p. 427), but, 'at the instance of my Lord Bishop of London,' vessels were protected from pressing which were employed in bringing stone from Portland for the work of rebuilding (p. 458). On July 21 protections were granted to the vessels

and men of the alum-farmers (p. 479), and on December 15 'the boats and men employed in carrying of letters between the Isle of Wight and Southampton' were exempted (p. 546). On April 13, 1678, 'a carrier from Exeter' received a protection for his men (p. 578). On the other hand it was held, on January 3, 1673-4, that watermen were not 'excused for pressing by virtue of their coats,' unless they appeared 'to stand in particular relation to some of his Majesty's public offices of the navy, ordnance, custom-house, green-cloth, or others,' whereof a list was to be prepared by the Rulers of Watermen's Hall (p. 3).

Notwithstanding the shortage of men, the Board of Admiralty declined to allow ships to be manned out of the ordinary, as the numbers were as small as the safety of the King's ships would admit (pp. 312, 551).

The operation of the press and the general want of pay sometimes led to desertions (p. 617). For this the penalty was usually the loss of wages (p. 43), although on February 10, 1676-7, a pressed waterman who ran away from his galley was ordered to be 'laid by the heels and tried by a court-martial' (p. 404). The rules governing desertion were deemed unsatisfactory, as in certain cases they placed the naval administration in an awkward dilemma. Several cases arose in which a seaman 'who by deserting his Majesty's service in a second ship and is contented to sit down by the loss of his wages earned therein' complained 'of our exacting from him the forfeiture of his wages which is due to him for

service well earned in a former ship'; and it was pointed out 'how much on one hand his Majesty's service will be liable to desertion should seamen be liable to no other forfeitures for it than for the few days he shall spend upon a ship before he find opportunity of running away from it,' and 'what hardship it will be thought on the other hand to the seamen if, for the want of the regular payment which seamen anciently had in the navy when the annual service thereof was divided into a summer and winter guard and the wages earned therein cleared at the expiration of each 6 months, a seaman shall be kept unpaid (as sometimes we have known them) 2 or 3 years or more, and upon being still transferred to another ship shall forfeit his said three years' wages upon his making an escape on shore only to look out for the payment of his said arrears towards the support of his necessitous family, with purpose of returning voluntarily again to his Majesty's service, as most of those in the cases now mentioned appear to have done' (p. 319). The Officers of the Navy were instructed to consider a revision of the rule, and after a period of incubation extending from May 27, 1676, to March 22, 1676-7, they recommended 'that a seaman that runs away from the service shall forfeit no more than the wages earned in the said ship from whence he runs,' remaining, however, liable to be tried by court-martial for deserting the service, 'which last is judged necessary for that no man's service can be depended upon beyond a day if the forfeiture of that day's wages shall be all his penalty for running away' (p. 409).

It should be observed that seamen were not allowed to enlist in any foreign service without leave (p. 20).

The needs of sick and wounded seamen were not lost sight of during the period covered by the 'Journal.' 'For the speedy retrenching the charge arising from their Commission,' it was resolved on March 7, 1673-4, that the 'whole action' of the Commission for Sick and Wounded appointed for the war should 'determine by May Day next' (p. 14). The Commissioners were to 'take no more sick men into their care'; commanders were to send no more on shore, but 'to provide for them on board as hath been always practised in time of peace'; and 'those now in the hand of the said Commissioners who cannot be cured within the said time' are to be put into hospitals. Money to discharge their debt, estimated at £25,000, was to be provided as soon as possible (p. 15). On March 30, 1674, the general care of the sick and wounded was again committed to Mr. James Pearse, the Chirurgeon-General of the Fleet, 'as heretofore in time of peace' (p. 34). It was not possible to deal with every case of illness on board ship, and sick seamen continued to be put on shore, where the provision for their needs was far from satisfactory. Attempts were, however, made to find a remedy. On April 22, 1676, a report from the Officers of the Navy was approved 'touching the fittest method of provision to be made at Kinsale for the relief and cure of sick and hurt seamen which shall be put on shore there out of his Majesty's ships' (p. 303).

On January 11, 1678-9, Mr. Pearse, a most competent official,¹ presented to the Board of Admiralty a 'state' of 'the present want of provision for sick men in the several ports at this day' (p. 625); and Sir John Berry reported on 'the ill state of the affairs for sick men in the Downs' (p. 627); the matter was 'recommended to the care of the Officers of the Navy,' who were also 'to take care for the sick seamen put on shore at Portsmouth, suitable to what they do in other places' (p. 638). On April 19, 1679, a motion was made 'for some better care to be taken for providing for sick men put on shore at Deal than by complaints from that place and from Mr. Pearse, Chirurgeon-General of the Fleet, appears at this day to be,' and an attempt was made to obtain money for the purpose (p. 661). There is among the Pepysian papers a report from Pearse made to Pepys 'for the King's information' giving an account of the reforms which he had introduced during his long tenure of office. This is dated September 1687; and he claims by that time to have 'reduced it into such a method that it is not possible for me (or whomsoever shall succeed me) to wrong his Majesty or injure his subjects,'² but a good deal of confusion had to be eliminated before this desirable result could be attained.

As in 1918, so in 1674, provision for maimed and crippled seamen was regarded as a paramount obligation. On March 7 the Officers of the Navy were instructed to consider 'some proposition

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 137-8.

² *Ib.*, i. 137.

by which some of the poor seamen who by the loss of their limbs in the King's service are unable to provide for themselves in merchants' ships, may in charity with least burden to his Majesty be entertained in time of peace on board those of his Majesty's ships which shall be abroad' (p. 17). The cooks' places were in particular reserved for them (p. 332), and in this capacity they were treated with great consideration. James Davis, the cook of the Royal Oak, 'who lost all the lower part of his face in the engagement of May 28, 1672,' and was in consequence 'not able to eat sea-biscuit or meat,' was allowed to perform his duties by deputy (p. 118); and on 'a petition being read from the cooks of the great ships,' they 'being generally maimed,' it was agreed 'that to such of them as by losing both arms or both legs shall be wholly disabled to help themselves without the assistance of another, a servant shall be allowed to be borne above the complement of the ship' (p. 351).¹ On the other hand, a general petition from the cooks of the navy 'praying for an allowance of servants in harbour, for the enabling them to take and maintain apprentices, or that they might have some increase to their wages,' was rejected, the application for increased wages being 'denied,' and 'the former is found contrary to practice, and the arguments about their taking apprentices judged of no weight' (p. 492). As the ships could only absorb a proportion of the cripples (p. 91), they were given a preference 'in all hospitals, almshouses, &c., in his Majesty's gift,' and the Governors of the Chest at Chatham

¹ But see also pp. 373, 375.

were ordered to prepare 'a list of the several seamen who have lost limbs in his Majesty's service,' sorted according to their places of abode, 'to the end that as vacancies fall they may with greater benefit be bestowed upon seamen who live nearest to the hospitals or other places of support wherein any vacancy shall fall' (p. 92 ; also pp. 35, 304, 332). A number of 'double-maimed men,' estimated at forty, who were incapable of employment as cooks, were to be allowed life-pensions equal to the wages they had enjoyed at the time of their disablement (p. 373).

The Commission for Widows and Orphans was continued until December 21, 1674, when its functions were assigned to the Navy Board (pp. 53, 54). On September 25, 1675, it was suggested that the Commissioners should receive some gratuity for their service, which 'is said to have been performed greatly to the benefit of his Majesty and content of the poor concerned' (p. 228). On February 6, 1675-6, £100 was granted to Dr. Mill as chairman, and £50 apiece to the other six members of the Commission (p. 277) ; but on August 5 these gratuities were still unpaid (p. 339).

The allusions in the 'Admiralty Letters' to 'reformadoes,' 'midshipmen extraordinary,' and 'volunteers' have been already discussed,¹ but the 'Journal' provides additional information of importance. On November 14, 1674, the Board of Admiralty was informed by Mr. Pepys of 'the multitude of solicitations daily made by persons (some that have been at sea and others

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xxx.

not) to be entered on board his Majesty's ships either as midshipmen extraordinary or volunteers with servants,' but the Board decided to adhere to the resolution, 'now for some time past observed,' of 'admitting none as midshipmen extraordinary but such as have served' 'heretofore as commanders or lieutenants' (p. 90). It was also decided to admit no servants without special warrant (*ib.*). But the Board was informed a fortnight later of 'the complaint generally made by the commanders of the few ships of late set forth touching the ill manning of their ships by the numbers of extraordinary midshipmen granted by his Majesty, who are above the performance of the seaman's ordinary labour, as having been formerly commanders and lieutenants,' 'as also of volunteers, who are neither able nor skilful enough to do the seamen's work, by which means, and the low complements of men in time of peace, the labour of the ship becomes too much to be performed by the small number of the true-bred seamen remaining on board the said ships' (pp. 100-1); it was therefore resolved that in future midshipmen extraordinary and volunteers should be borne as supernumeraries (p. 101).

The question came up again on April 29, 1676, when Mr. Pepys called attention to 'the very great charge which he observes his Majesty's bounty to be attended with in the bearing of volunteers and midshipmen extraordinary upon his ships at sea above their complements, without any, or very little, visible fruits from the same, through it being for the most part applied to

the entertaining of persons for volunteers too old and too long practised in the liberties and pleasures of the shore ever to apply themselves as they ought to do to the duty, obedience, and trade of a seaman, as also through its being applied to persons for midshipmen extraordinary who are wholly incapable of doing the work thereof (though they may have spent some little time at sea), whereas this privilege was intended originally from his Majesty for such only as having been commanders and lieutenants in time of war cannot by the smallness of the action be provided for . . . in time of peace, and all this to the insupportable inconveniency daily complained of by the commanders of the ships on which such midshipmen extraordinary and volunteers are imposed' (pp. 307-8). Mr. Pepys then produced 'a collection of rules which by his Majesty's command he had digested in order to the remedying of all this, and rendering effectual this his Majesty's bounty to the good ends for which it was originally intended,' and after debate this was approved by the Lords, 'with the addition offered by the Officers of the Navy of obliging the midshipmen extraordinary to keep journals' (p. 308). This, the first general regulation determining the conditions under which midshipmen extraordinary and volunteers might be borne on the King's ships, has been printed by Mr. W. G. Perrin in the 'Mariner's Mirror' for April 1922.

The privilege of admission as a volunteer was carefully restricted, in accordance with the ideas of the time. On September 1, 1677, a petition

came before the Board of Admiralty 'of one Bell, a groom of his Majesty's, praying that his son might be admitted as a volunteer, being of the proper age for it and desirous of being bred to the sea.' It was answered by the Board 'that this his Majesty's allowance of volunteers was originally designed for the encouragement of young sons of noblemen, and gentlemen of better quality, to betake themselves to the sea, which would be wholly defeated if they should let in the children of persons of ordinary sort to have the benefit thereof, and that therefore Mr. Bell could not be gratified in this his desire' (pp. 491-2).

During this period a few changes were made in the personnel of the ships. On November 28, 1674, it was resolved, 'for the further encouragement and employment of such as have served his Majesty in the late war, and are now destitute of employment and likely so to continue during the peace,' that a lieutenant should be allowed 'to every 5th-rate ship (even during peace) that shall be employed upon a foreign voyage' (p. 101). Also, on January 3, 1677-8, 'consideration being had of the inconveniencies which have frequently been met with from the want of masters upon fireships in case of commanders knocked on the head,' it was agreed that 'for the time to come masters should be allowed in the establishment of the navy upon fireships as they are upon ships of the 5th-rate' (p. 562). On the other hand, on July 1, 1676, a petition from the boatswains of 6th-rates that they might be allowed servants was rejected (p. 325). Boatswains and gunners of the higher rates, who were allowed servants

could only take them 'by way of indenture, as their apprentices for seven years' (p. 99).

On December 23, 1674, a petition was read from the carpenters, praying that they might be 'borne on board his Majesty's ships in harbour as the rest of the standing officers are, the health and safety of the ships as to their hulls, masts, etc., calling for it' (p. 117), and after prolonged consideration by the Navy Board this was granted on July 28, 1675, in the case of the 'four upper-most rates' (p. 200).

On May 6, 1676, it was decided to forbid the allowance of any extraordinary charge for pilots upon 6th-rates, since their commanders had to qualify as masters by the examination of Trinity House (p. 317), and were therefore expected to do their own piloting. This was the more necessary, as pilots were sometimes inefficient (pp. 348, 387) and always scarce (p. 640); a consideration which led the King to propose 'that some method might be digested' 'for the settling a breed of pilots' from the boys of the new Royal Mathematical Foundation at Christ's Hospital, who were to be 'constantly borne upon his yachts, and there kept to that particular practice of observing the depths of water in all the places the yachts are employed in and passed through, with the shifting of the sands, and what else appertains to the perfecting of a good pilot' (p. 563). It was also suggested that a compulsory charge for pilotage into and out of the Thames should be imposed upon foreign vessels, 'there seeming nothing more deficient in the navy of England than a competent provision for maintaining a standing stock of pilots' (*ib.*). The 'Journal' con-

tains a number of references to the Mathematical School at Christ's Hospital,¹ which had been from the beginning intended as a nursery for the sea (p. 220). On September 25, 1675, a complete scheme for placing the boys out at sea as apprentices at the King's expense came before the Board of Admiralty (p. 226), and was subsequently confirmed by Order in Council (pp. 230, 240, 243, 247). Pepys was a Governor of Christ's Hospital, and took more than ordinary interest in these proceedings. On June 2, 1677, he appealed to the King and Lords, on behalf of the Hospital, to prevent the admission into the Mathematical School of an applicant who was not properly qualified under the charter (p. 436); and in the following January we find him presenting to the Board from the Governors of Christ's Hospital 'the annual list of his Majesty's mathematical children there, to the great satisfaction of his Majesty and my Lords' (p. 565).

4. PAY ²

Important questions of interpretation arose during this period in connexion with the establishments for half-pay. On July 24, 1674, it was laid down by the King that the words 'out of employment' in the establishment for flag-officers' pensions first made on July 17, 1668, related only to sea employments (p. 59); and that the extension of the benefit to captains of 1st and 2nd-rates and second captains of flagships, made on May 6, 1674, was not intended to apply 'to

¹ See Pepysian MSS., No. 2612: *A Collection of Matters relating to Christ's Hospital*.

² See also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 140-51; vol. ii. pp. xxv-xxviii; vol. iii. pp. xxxiii-xxxiv.

such as were only put in to carry in great ships after a fight, but to those, and those only, who either actually have fought or at least whilst they were in commission were with the rest of the fleet in the way in expectation of fighting' (*ib.*). On October 2, 1675, the question was raised whether Colonel Legge, the Deputy-Governor of Portsmouth, and Sir John Ernle, who had command of a company in Ireland, could for the purposes of this establishment be regarded as 'out of employment' (p. 232). The King, with the assent of the Lords, decided in favour of the parties in both cases, on the ground that Colonel Legge 'came to his said employment not by his Majesty's gift but his own purchase,' and Sir John Ernle was in possession of his before the date of the establishment, 'but more especially in consideration that he is the only person of all now surviving that would want the benefit of this his Majesty's bounty in case it should be denied him' (*ib.*). The same question was raised in connexion with the establishment for flag-officers—whether Sir Thomas Allin, the Comptroller of the Navy, Sir Jeremy Smyth, the Comptroller of the Victuallers' Accounts, and Sir Richard Haddock, a Commissioner of the Navy, were debarred by these employments from receiving half-pay (p. 232). In this case it was held that they were sea employments which disqualified the holders for the benefit of the establishment (p. 235).

In 1675 half-pay was further extended to the commanders of squadrons (pp. 159, 173) and to the masters of 1st and 2nd-rate ships (pp. 129, 162, 172).

During the period covered by the 'Journal' several increases of wages took place. In 1674 harbour wages were raised to the level of sea wages for both seamen (p. 54) and officers (p. 100), and on March 6, 1674-5, the proviso was added that for the future the ordinary should be obliged 'to the same duty and attendance in a constant lodging on board (for the greater safety of his Majesty's ships in port) as is expected from them while the ship is abroad' (p. 163). This led, in the following November, to a petition from the officers of the ordinary at Chatham praying 'that their duty of lodging every night on board, which has been exacted from them ever since the raising of their harbour wages to sea wages, may be extenuated by its being brought to their lodging of two only of their number on board by turns each night' (p. 244). After consideration by the Officers of the Navy, this was granted on December 20 (p. 263); but the officers of the ordinary at Chatham were still dissatisfied (p. 292), and failed to lodge in their turns, two at a time, constantly on board the ships in harbour (p. 331), apparently contending that they ought not to be required to watch by day as well as by night. The issue of the dispute is indicated in a rather ambiguous minute of January 20, 1676-7 (p. 391).

We also hear of an increase in the salaries of the upper clerks of the Navy Office (p. 58); and in the remuneration of Mr. Pett, the master-builder at Chatham, 'in consideration of his services without suitable salary for the time past' (p. 56). On the other hand, in December 1674, an application from the master-joiner, house-

carpenter, and bricklayer of Deptford and Woolwich yards for 'an increase of salary or some other encouragement answerable to what are enjoyed by the like officers in some others of the King's yards' was refused (p. 118). Later on, in June 1677, a petition came in from the officers of all the yards for an increase of wages, which was 'judged of too much charge to his Majesty to receive any present answer in its favour, and yet of too much discouragement to the said officers to be totally rejected'; it was therefore ordered that each case should be considered upon its merits (p. 459). The wages at Portsmouth, however, which were lower than elsewhere (p. 479), were raised to the level of the other yards (p. 488). A part of the pay of the masters-attendant of the yards was in respect of 'the liveries anciently allowed them out of the Great Wardrobe' (pp. 131, 318).

On December 23, 1674, 'upon Mr. Pepys offering to their Lordships' consideration the charge he was during the last summer necessarily at in attending the King from day to day as the business of the Navy and Admiralty required while the Court was out of town, and that he is for the time to come subject to the like charges of travelling as often as the King's absence or his or their Lordships' commands shall require it' (p. 116), it was decided to make the same allowance for travelling to the Secretary of the Admiralty as was already enjoyed by the Officers of the Navy (p. 117). On the other hand, on October 2, 1675, the special allowances for diet hitherto claimed by the Officers of the Navy and their

clerks for attending pays no further away than the Pay Office in Broad Street, were cut off (p. 233).

On June 9, 1677, an extraordinary allowance of 20s. a day, over and above his ordinary pay of 40s. a day as the commander-in-chief of a fleet in the Straits, was ordered to be made to Sir John Narbrough, this having been already enjoyed in similar circumstances by Sir John Lawson, Sir Thomas Allin, and Sir Edward Spragge (p. 440).

References also occur to a change of method in connexion with pays (p. 40); to the practice of the navy of dating a commander's pay not from his commission but from his first lying on board his ship (pp. 522, 605, 642); and to the rule that no allowance should in any circumstances be made to a ship's company for loss of their clothes in case of wreck (pp. 314, 344, 366, 577), but only in loss by fight (p. 641).¹ We learn incidentally that the commander of the King's ship who carried an Ambassador to Constantinople expected a gratuity of £100 from the Turkey Company, and as much more from the Ambassador himself (p. 294).

5. VICTUALS²

The most important matters arising under this head are the two revisions of the victualling contract which were effected in 1675 and 1677.

¹ A special allowance for private losses was, however, made in the case of the burning of the *Europa* hulk by treachery (p. 385), although with precautions against the establishing of a precedent.

² See also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 151-83; vol. ii. pp. xxviii-xxix; vol. iii. pp. xxxiv-xxxv.

The contract in force at the opening of the Commission was that of January 1, 1672, with Sir Denis Gauden and Benjamin Gauden, his son, Josiah Child, Sir Thomas Littleton, and Thomas Papillon. This expired in 1673, and it was replaced by a new contract, signed in November of that year, under which the Gaudens remained in office, but the places of Littleton, Child, and Papillon were taken by Sir Denny Ashburnham, Anthony Sturt, and Abraham Jaggard. We learn from the 'Journal' that the retiring contractors delayed their accounts (p. 10), and failed to hand over some of the storehouses to their successors (p. 11). In April 1675 negotiations began for the redrafting of this contract (pp. 175, 179, 193, 224), and by September 25 it was 'now perfectly finished' (p. 229), but there was some difficulty in finding a successor to Mr. Sturt, 'who desires to be no longer interested in that affair' (pp. 229, 245). Eventually Sir Denis Gauden produced another convenient son, Mr. Jonathan Gauden, and the contract was ready to be despatched to the Attorney-General, 'in order to its passing the great seal,' on November 27, 1675 (p. 248). It was made retrospective, and dated back to January 1, 'at which time the pretences of the late victuallers to any interest in that employment were finally at an end' (*ib.*).

The victualling contract of 1677 has been fully described in a preceding volume.¹ The contract of 1675 broke down mainly through the failure of the Government to discharge its obligations to the contractors (p. 393), and Sir Denis

¹ *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 165-78.

Gauden was practically ruined (pp. 486, 488, 491, 496); but there were others who were willing to make the dangerous experiment of dealing with the King. The possibility of a new contract was first discussed on January 20, 1676-7 (p. 393), and notice to terminate the existing one at Michaelmas was given on February 3 (pp. 399, 400).

Tenders were invited (pp. 501, 505, 507-10); the various proposals were set out in a table in characteristic fashion by Mr. Pepys (p. 513); and Richard Brett, Samuel Vincent, and John Parsons were accepted as the new victuallers of the navy (p. 540). Their contract covered the victualling at Kinsale, which had long been in the hands of the two Southwells, father and son (p. 519), and a vigorous statement of their case was made to the Board of Admiralty by Mr. Pepys (p. 542), to whom it was referred to bring the matter 'to an amicable accommodation' (p. 543). When it became necessary to make preparations on a large scale for war with France, Gauden's more enterprising successors fared no better at the King's hands than he had done, and the minutes for the first three months of 1679 are full of references to failure to pay the victuallers (pp. 614, 616, 620, 640), their consequent dissatisfaction (pp. 629, 635), and the shifts resorted to to prevent a refusal of supplies (pp. 621, 648-51).

After long negotiation (pp. 5, 9, 12, 36, 37, 39, 46, 47, 105) the Mediterranean victualling was placed, by a separate contract of December 31,

1674,¹ in the hands of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, formerly Consul at Leghorn. A twelvemonth later his failure to provide adequate supplies at Malta for the Straits fleet was 'largely insisted upon' by Sir John Narbrough, and on January 22, 1675-6, the contractor was summoned before the Board of Admiralty and interrogated. 'He answered for his defence by imputing the said wants not to his neglect or insufficiency to provide the same but to the obstructions he meets with from the princes of the several ports where he has endeavoured to make his provision' (p. 269); he also complained of his 'ill payments from the Office of the Ordnance for what stores he delivers to his Majesty's ships relating to that Office' (p. 270). His defence appears to have been accepted, and at his suggestion 'recommendatory letters' were sent from the King to the princes concerned (p. 279). Later on, however, when the contract of 1677 was under consideration, the new contractors offered to undertake the Mediterranean victualling also at 8*d.* per man a day, whereas the King was paying Clutterbuck 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*, and notice was accordingly given him, on October 27, 1677, 'of his Majesty's purpose for the determination of his contract at the end of the next year' (p. 510), and the new victuallers were definitely promised the reversion (p. 515). At the beginning of 1679 Clutterbuck's arrangements for the Mediterranean victualling were pronounced wholly unsatisfactory (pp. 626, 628),

¹ This contract is to be found in Pepysian MSS., No. 2867, *Naval Precedents*, p. 455; as also a supplemental contract by which it was amended on February 19, 1676-7 (p. 473).

and in March Sir John Narbrough wrote to complain of the want of provisions for his fleet at Alicante, and 'great failures' at Port Mahon (p. 654). On April 8, Clutterbuck was called before the Board, and, after denying the charges brought against him, insisted more especially upon 'the great failures of payment which he has long lain under from my Lord Treasurer' (*ib.*); but he went on to destroy the effect of a good argument by letting fall the preposterous suggestion 'that Sir John Narbrough did industriously design his prejudice by misrepresenting his services in order to the turning him out of his employment, as designing to get the victualling of the fleet into his own hand' (p. 655). This the Board declined to entertain, as the only evidence he could produce was a letter from his agent at Port Mahon, who, as the Board acutely remarked, might 'for the same reason suggest it to him' (*ib.*).

The Tangier victualling was at first in the hands of Sir Denis Gauden, but in 1677 Sir John Narbrough found such a scarcity of stores and provisions there as to threaten his operations against Algiers, and the King 'was pleased to conceive so great dissatisfaction with Sir D. Gauden for the same, upon the consideration of the pernicious consequence which these wants may be of to his Majesty's service in those seas at this particular juncture' (p. 501), that on October 2 it was decided to invite offers for a new contract. The new contractors for the general victualling of the navy offered to undertake Tangier at 8*d.*, and Lisbon at 8½*d.* (p. 515), and this appears to have been accepted (pp. 530, 626-7).

Until 1678 there are few complaints of bad victuals. Once, on August 14, 1675, Gauden and his partners are to be found defending themselves to the Board of Admiralty (p. 208), and on December 23, 1676, they are censured for continuing the practice of issuing oatmeal instead of fish, 'which was some years since admitted as a present expedient only for supplying the want of fish, then not to be had' (p. 389). But under the new contract of 1677, from which so much had been expected, there were numerous complaints of delay in supplying, and the badness of the victuals supplied. These are to be found rather in the 'Admiralty Letters' ¹ than in the 'Admiralty Journal,' as they relate to matters of detail and not of policy; but on July 27, 1678, the badness of the brandy put on board the Norwich was complained of to the Board, and the victuallers, pleading guilty, promised to 'send other in the room of it which shall upon tasting be approved of by persons to be appointed on behalf of his Majesty' (p. 592). Complaints from the Officers of the Navy are also referred to in the minutes for August 8 (p. 599).

In connexion with the victualling, a few references to the pursers ² deserve consideration.

On February 28, 1673-4, it was decided that 'a purser and husband' should be borne upon the galleys, 'the former to be accountable for the receipts and issues of victuals, the latter of all other stores' (p. 13). On March 4, 1675-6, a petition from the pursers of 5th-rates that they might be borne in ordinary, 'as the pursers of

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 179.

² See also pp. 200, 211, 288.

great ships are,' was rejected, as not agreeing with 'the ancient practice of the navy,' and therefore 'a chargeable and useless innovation' (p. 289). On May 12, 1677, it was ruled, 'as coming within the true intention' of the establishment concerned, that the captains of 6th-rates, being their own pursers, were entitled to extraordinary necessary money, 'as is granted to pursers of small ships' (p. 421). On July 10, 1677, an important minute occurs relating to certain admitted grievances of the pursers in connexion with the passing of their accounts, and new rules proposed for remedying them (pp. 472-4). Finally, on April 6, 1678, it was decided that pursers should not be permitted to go to sea again until they had passed their accounts for former voyages, and 'a general resolution taken for the forbidding not only pursers but other officers in the navy to execute their office by deputies' (p. 574).

6. DISCIPLINE ¹

Disciplinary action during this period was taken either by the Board of Admiralty itself, dealing directly with delinquents, or by trial by court-martial. There are also cases of trial and sentence in the Court of Admiralty, and one of capital punishment for murder, inflicted by a court of common law.

In June 1674 Captain Leonard Harris was discharged from his employment by the King and Lords for coming in to Plymouth 'upon

¹ See also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 183-221; vol. ii. pp. xxix-xxxiii; vol. iii. pp. xxxvi-xliii.

pretence of not being able to keep the sea,' and then, before any repairs had been effected, going over to St. Malo 'for his private benefit in conveying of merchantmen' (p. 50). In July Captain Joseph Harris was accused of having exacted $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. 'for money by him brought from Cadiz to St. Malo,' in violation of the regulation which allowed 1 per cent. only to be charged (p. 60); on confession he was ordered 'to repay to the merchants concerned the full value of what he so exacted above 1 per cent., the same to be done before he receive his wages, his ship being paid off putting it out of the King's power to punish him further by the discharging him his command' (p. 65). In this connexion it should be noticed that the Order in Council of July 30, 1673, forbidding commanders to take more than the 'anciently accustomed and allowed rate' of 1 per cent. 'for moneys carried from place to place belonging to the King's subjects,'¹ was further limited on June 12, 1675, by an order of the Board of Admiralty prohibiting 'the taking in and carrying of moneys by any of his Majesty's ships to any port within the Straits or elsewhere, otherwise than from Cadiz to England in their return home' (p. 184); this was due to 'the liberty taken by commanders bound to the Straits, of taking in money at Cadiz and carrying it to Genoa and other ports for their particular benefits,' to the neglect of the King's service (*ib.*).

Sir William Poole, an officer of good family, was the spoilt darling of the Admiralty, and his breaches of discipline were leniently dealt with.

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 189.

In September 1674 he was despatched in command of the *St. David* to carry the Governor of Barbados to his island, and his return was not reported to the Board of Admiralty until June 12, 1675—an instance, as Pepys observed, of ‘the liberty taken by commanders when abroad of lengthening the voyage as they see fit, upon any studied occasion or pretence for their longer stay’ (p. 184). In a characteristic table (p. 206), Pepys worked out the total cost of the voyage to and from Barbados at £14,644 4s., of which £4,322 16s. 6d. was due to ‘Sir William Poole’s keeping his ship there wholly unemployed about six months, contrary to his Majesty’s orders given him at his going’ (p. 199); and when it appeared, on his being called before the Lords, that the most probable ground of his stay was to collect and bring home ‘great quantity of merchandise,’ he was committed to the custody of the Marshal of the Admiralty (p. 206). Here he remained for five weeks only (p. 220), his past service and good character being held to outweigh ‘the necessity that a crime so exorbitant and complicated as that for which he stands committed should be made exemplary in its punishment’ (p. 217; also p. 214), and he was offered the choice of being tried by court-martial or forfeiting to the King the wages of the voyage and to the Chest at Chatham the ‘reasonable freight’ of the ‘merchant goods’ by him brought home (p. 217). He chose the latter alternative (p. 220); but in the following year he was granted, as of the King’s bounty, a sum equal to the wages he had forfeited (p. 347). His punishment was

supposed to involve the loss of his employment (*ib.*), but in February 1676-7 he was appointed to the command of the *Leopard*, and in September 1678 arrangements were being made for the young Duke of Grafton to go to sea with him as a volunteer in the *Happy Return* (p. 609). On January 11, 1678-9, a further delinquency on the part of Sir William Poole was reported to the Lords in his 'going away to the Straits without his convoys, to the exposing them to great hazard' (p. 625), and their Secretary was instructed to 'take care that the same be brought to an examination before a court-martial, either with Sir John Narbrough in the Straits or at his return for England.' ¹

On March 4, 1675-6, the Officers of the Navy, in pursuance of their duty, reported to the Lords the failure of certain commanders to carry out the Lord Admiral's Instructions, 'and it being noted to his Majesty that as from hence proceeds all the disorders in the navy, and that no time can be fitter for exacting from commanders a strict conformity to their instructions than now in time of peace, and that neither now nor at any other time any amendment is to be hoped for while commanders are indemnified in all their violations of order' (p. 289), it was resolved that the forfeiture of their wages should be 'finally

¹ Charnock, whose reflections are sometimes of a rather artless character, observes: 'It is somewhat singular that any man, more especially of Sir William's rank and family consequence, should have continued five-and-twenty years in service and be so little noticed by historians. We must naturally conclude his character and reputation as an officer was unblemished, or he would not have been so repeatedly entrusted with a command' (*Biog. Nav.*, i. 28).

exacted from them.' From this time onward the Officers of the Navy are constantly reporting failures justifying a forfeiture of wages,¹ but their efforts are frequently being thwarted by the fatal good-nature of the King (pp. 304, 314, 319, 321, 327, 353, 403). Indeed on October 28, 1676, the Lords went so far as to report to him 'their opinion and observation of the ruinous consequences to the discipline of the navy that attends the indulgence shewn by his Majesty to captains in their neglect of observing their duty in execution of the Lord Admiral's Instructions' (p. 365); and on February 10, 1676-7, they returned to the subject, and 'largely urged' that 'this his Majesty's indulgence' is 'most fatal to his service, and the great occasion of the breach of discipline in his whole fleet and waste of his treasure' (pp. 403-4), and it was ordered that 'from henceforward his Majesty's pleasure be signified in an especial manner to each commander that he will expect from henceforth the full compliance with the said Instructions, and that upon their failure therein their wages shall be forfeited, and immediately upon the coming of their ships to be laid up paid to the poor of the Chest at Chatham' (p. 404). After this things were better, and in April 1679 Charles II's amiability takes the more engaging form of the forgiveness of the mate of the *Edgar*, who had been 'heard to utter in his drink some unfitting words touching his Majesty's having lost the Parliament' (p. 662).

¹ Pp. 304, 310, 314, 319, 321, 327, 328, 353, 369, 381, 403, 409, 454, 487, 488, 596.

The Board of Admiralty also dealt by direct action with the complaints of the under-officers of the *Sapphire* 'touching their sufferings and ill-usage from their commander, Captain Thomas Harman,' being 'made sensible that the said captain doth lie under the report of being sometimes disturbed in his understanding, through the wounds (as is apprehended) he has received in his head' (p. 452); with 'the undecent comportment of Captain Preistman to the Navy Board, and particularly Sir Thomas Allin' (p. 569); with 'the false musters of the *Adventure*' (p. 587); and with quarrels among officers, one of which ended in a duel (p. 610). They investigated a petition against Captain Roome Coyle, preferred by his wife, 'that, living separate from her husband, his Majesty would be pleased to oblige him out of his wages to allow her some annual support' (p. 524), and committed it to Mr. Pepys 'to endeavour what he can by fair persuasions to prevail with Captain Roome Coyle peaceably to allow some reasonable maintenance to his wife during their separation' (p. 526). The result of this intervention does not transpire.

The frequent absenteeism of commanders also came before the Board. Captain Skelton 'never was on board his ship in 10 days after her coming in, nor was present at her pay nor provided any books, or rated his men' (p. 52); Captain Preistman was absent from on board his ship the *Lark* at the muster, and was made 'Run' by the clerk of the check, and although the clerk was reprimanded for making a commander 'Run,' to the diminution of his credit and authority as a

commander, the captain's pay was stopped (p. 201) ; and the gunner of the *St. George* absented himself from his duty, although in this case the suspension put upon him by the resident Commissioner of the Navy at Chatham was removed by the Board, as his absence was shewn to be due to illness (p. 583). That this absenteeism of commanders without leave was common in the navy appears from a minute of the last meeting of the Commission, on April 19, 1679, when Mr. Pepys described it as 'tending to the great reproach of his Majesty's service and the utter subversion of all good discipline therein,' and it was resolved that 'the commanders at this present guilty thereof' be 'reprehended from his Majesty and sent down to their ships, and that for the future no commander be allowed to come up from his command upon any pretence whatsoever, without leave expressly given under his Majesty's own hand or under the hands of a quorum of their Lordships' (p. 664).

The Lords always took prompt action in the numerous cases in which persons belonging to the navy were arrested by bailiffs without their leave first had and obtained. On July 24, 1674, reference was made at the Board to 'a late declaration made by my Lord Chief Justice in Court that no seaman or soldier, though in his Majesty's pay, is exempted from arrest' (p. 59), but this position, so inconvenient to the navy, does not appear to have been maintained (p. 60), and the Lords always claimed the right to decide whether they should or should not give protection to a debtor from arrest by his creditors (p. 77). The creditors

themselves and the bailiffs whom they employed were summoned before them, and unless they could shew that they were ignorant of the debtor's relation to the navy, were themselves liable to arrest (pp. 106, 115, 239).¹ On the other hand, the right to protect was not misused; it was usual either to grant leave to arrest if applied for on sufficient grounds, or to assign a certain time for payment, and after that had expired to leave the debtor to the law (p. 116). On July 18, 1677, one Edward Grange, cook of the Assistance, prayed relief 'in that he has been lately arrested without the knowledge and leave of their Lordships,' but it appeared that his arrest was occasioned by 'his very undue proceedings as constable of the parish of Barking in Tower Street in beating and otherwise abusing several persons appertaining to his Majesty's Office of Ordnance, and that neither at that time nor at any other before the said arrest he did make known his being an officer of his Majesty's navy' (p. 476); and it was therefore resolved that for the future 'it be taken as a standing rule' that no person shall receive protection 'who shall not appear to have timely declared his relation, by office or otherwise, to his Majesty's navy to the party arresting or designing to arrest him, before or (in case of surprise) at the very time of his being arrested, and to have offered proof of his said relation' (p. 477). One of the victims of an arrest was the unfortunate victualling contractor, Sir Denis Gauden, but his creditor was ordered to 'be laid by the heels' (p. 487); in this case,

¹ See also pp. 214, 334, 343, 460, 539.

however, there were complications (pp. 491, 496).

Trials by court-martial occur frequently during this period. Captain Joseph Harris, who had rendered distinguished service as commander of a fireship in the Third Dutch War (p. 105), was tried for striking the topsail of the Quaker ketch to a Spanish man-of-war in the Bay of Biscay 'in derogation to the honour of his Majesty's flag' (p. 268). He was 'condemned to be shot to death,' and an order to that effect was issued, 'with all appearance to be made of its being purposed to be really executed,' but a reprieve was at the same time prepared, to be produced at the last moment, 'grounded upon considerations of his former good services and known proofs of his courage, and his having by fits his judgment greatly impaired by wounds heretofore received in his head' (p. 279). A somewhat similar case was that of Captain Carverth, commander of the Woolwich sloop, who was charged with striking to the King of Spain's colours and bracing his head-sails to the mast at the command of an Ostend caper, and allowing the caper to search and carry off to Ostend a vessel under his convoy (pp. 64, 107); but his trial by court-martial resulted in an acquittal (pp. 140, 163). In the same category should be placed the case of Captain Atkins, who for allowing the Quaker ketch to be carried into Algiers 'by two ships of that place' (p. 336) 'in most dishonourable manner' (p. 358) was brought home prisoner from Tangier (p. 405) and ordered to be tried by court-martial (p. 451); but the trial was long delayed, first by his illness

and then by the absence at sea of the witnesses for the prosecution (p. 466). The sentence ultimately given was one of dismissal from the service.¹

Other offences dealt with by court-martial were: the 'unfaithfulness' of a commander in bearing in victuals and wages, as a member of his ship's company, a shipwright who was all the time working and receiving pay in Chatham yard (p. 93); the annoyance caused by a seaman who, although he had deserted from several ships, 'nevertheless doth daily and clamorously importune the Officers for his pay' (p. 218); embezzlement of stores (pp. 284, 337); a master running his ship on ground (pp. 334, 337, 355)²; the malicious burning of the Europa hulk, a crime for which the offenders were sentenced to death and executed accordingly (pp. 380, 383); and the endangering of the Diamond upon the Goodwin Sands in her passage to the Downs 'through a most unheard-of degree of ignorance and neglect' in her master and pilot³ (pp. 438, 464). Accusations made by the captain and lieutenant of the Sweepstakes 'against one another reciprocally in matters very criminal' (p. 550) were investigated by a court-martial which dealt firmly with both (p. 592).

The Board of Admiralty exhibited an interest in and claimed a certain control over courts-martial. For instance, when in 1676 a com-

¹ *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 319.

² Cf. also p. 610.

³ As the pilot was 'reputed to be a person subject to fits approaching to that of distraction,' his sentence of six months' imprisonment was reduced to three (p. 482).

mander and lieutenant, on returning from a voyage, 'mutually exhibited' 'articles' against each other, and were both acquitted by the court, the Board held that 'the crimes whereof they accused one another were of such a degree as called for their Lordships' particular inspection, in order at least to the preservation of a better discipline in his Majesty's ships than can be supposed to be where captains and lieutenants can causelessly take upon them the arraiguing one another in points so criminal' (p. 267), and called for the record of the evidence. From this it 'abundantly appeared by their own confessions they were not so guiltless in the points wherein they stood accused' as the sentence of the court implied, and although there was no suggestion of interfering with the result of the trial, the King directed that 'they should stand so far under the imputation of being guilty as to have a mark set upon them for breakers of their instructions and violators of the discipline of the navy, to be brought to his Majesty's memory by the Secretary of the Admiralty whenever they shall hereafter pretend to any new employment' (p. 277); and it was made a standing rule that, together with the copy of every sentence 'presented to the Lord Admiral under the hands of the president and judge-advocate,' there should also be presented 'a summary account of the evidence, in order to guiding his Majesty and the Lord Admiral, though not to the reversing or questioning the said sentence yet to the better judging of the truth of the behaviour of the party so sentenced, in reference to any future employment or trust' (p. 278).

But offenders were not allowed to appeal to the Board of Admiralty against the sentence of a court-martial (p. 606), as 'the same was judged of dangerous consequence to the discipline of the navy, and thereupon judged unfit to be allowed' (p. 627). It was also judged necessary 'for the preservation of good discipline' that the loss of a King's ship should be 'examined before a court-martial and the occasion thereof cleared' before any order was given for the payment of wages (p. 642).

An interesting case affecting the discipline of the navy came before a court-martial at the beginning of 1676. The carpenter of the Oxford was killed by a musket-shot from the guardship at Portsmouth 'upon his, with others, passing by the said guardship at an unseasonable time of the night, and with provoking language refusing to give an account of themselves to the captain of the guardship' (p. 251). The mate of the guardship, who had fired the shot, 'going on shore in order to the getting some help towards saving the life of the said carpenter,' was instantly seized and committed to prison by the Mayor of Portsmouth. It was at first proposed to issue out a *habeas corpus* from the Court of Admiralty to remove the prisoner into the jurisdiction of that court, but as that would have involved a trial by a Commission of Oyer and Terminer in the Admiralty, 'to be specially held for that purpose' (p. 254), it was decided to adopt a simpler procedure, and to issue a warrant from the Board of Admiralty to the Mayor of Portsmouth for his delivering his prisoner to the Marshal of the

Admiralty (p. 255) to be tried by court-martial. The court found that the mate of the guardship had 'killed the carpenter of the Oxford in the execution of his duty' (p. 267), and he was therefore acquitted, their Lordships judging 'the proceedings of the court-martial therein agreeable to the law and what the preservation of discipline in the navy required' (p. 268 ; also p. 292).

The discipline exercised by the Court of Admiralty appears in the minute-book in connexion with a petition from a seaman who had been fined 100 marks by that court 'for abusing his master and making of mutiny in their ship, to the necessitating the master to leap overboard for his security' (p. 395). The vessel was probably a merchant-ship, but the King, considering 'the severity necessary to be expressed in this case for the preservation of discipline, universally complained of to be lost among the seamen of England,' refused to intervene (p. 396). Later on, in consideration of his long imprisonment through inability to pay the fine, the King remitted the fine and ordered his discharge, as also that of another delinquent who had been fined by the court for taking a commission from a foreign prince to command a privateer (p. 496).

The operation of the ordinary law is shewn by an indictment at the Guildhall of a man guilty of personation at the pay office (p. 157) ; but the relation of the Board of Admiralty to the law-courts is better illustrated by the remarkable case of Captain Thomas Booth in 1677. Captain Booth, commander of the *Falcon*, went on shore at Yarmouth with some of his ship's company

‘ about the getting of a pilot ’ (p. 518), and committed a riot ‘ there at midnight in rescuing a person out of the hands of justice,’ in which he had the misfortune to kill a watchman (p. 494). The Board received from the Bailiffs of Yarmouth copies of the depositions and a letter by Captain Booth in his own defence, but the matter was found ‘ so unfit for his Majesty to patronise as that he was pleased, with the advice of my Lords, to declare ’ that ‘ he will in no ways interrupt the proceedings of justice in reference to the said malefactor, nor to the execution of any sentence of death that shall by law be pronounced against him ’ (p. 495). The only indulgence he shewed to him was, ‘ upon consideration of ’ his ‘ quality,’ to ‘ determine, after advising therein with my Lord Chancellor, upon changing the doom of the said captain from being hanged to the being beheaded ’ (p. 499).

The breach of regulation involved in the carrying of merchants’ goods by the commanders of the King’s ships for their private profit was for a time a subject of frequent complaint (p. 76). On September 12, 1674, the case of Captain Haddock was ‘ opened ’ before the Lords, ‘ touching his fault in going without order back to Malaga and coming thence laden home with merchants’ goods ’ (p. 65) ¹; he was tried by court-martial (p. 71), sentenced to imprisonment (p. 85), and compelled to disgorge his forfeited gains, which were granted to the poor of the Chest at Chatham (p. 67). On October 31 attention was

¹ Cf. also the case of Captain Anguish on November 7, 1674 (p. 81).

called to the 'blameableness' of certain commanders 'in denying to take on board them some wine prepared by the Duke of Florence for presents to the King and Court while they all the while were using all their industry to freight their ships with merchants' goods' (p. 76). On November 7 Mr. Pepys brought up a draft of an article prohibiting the practice, 'and expressing the same more fully and forcedly than it hath yet been by the 40th of the printed instructions' (pp. 80, 84), and to this an addition was approved requiring the officers of a ship to inform against their commander (pp. 81, 85). A week later (p. 83) nine commanders were reported as transgressors, but 'in consideration as well of the quality of several of the said commanders' as the want of sufficient officers qualified for holding it, a court-martial was dispensed with, and they were ordered instead to make over the full value of their gains to the Chatham Chest (p. 84), but they had to be threatened with a court-martial before the order was carried out (pp. 117, 123). The matter had a political aspect, for when in 1675 'some innovations' were made at Livorne in the way of demanding duties from the King's ships 'for the very provisions and stores delivered for his Majesty's own use,' Mr. Pepys pointed out that these innovations were 'in some sort reasonable,' since the commanders, 'by taking in of merchants' goods as they have hitherto done,' put themselves 'into the condition of merchantmen' and exposed themselves 'to the being treated as such' (p. 130). The disciplinary measures taken appear to have been successful, and although in

July 1675 there was a complaint of trading by commanders on a small scale at Livorne (p. 199), and in the following September of much smuggling of merchants' goods into English ports without paying customs by the commanders of the King's yachts (p. 224), after that there are only a few complaints (pp. 236, 286, 287, 312).

If discipline is concerned with punishments, it may also be regarded as including rewards; and under this head the gift of medals for good service should be referred to. The outstanding instance is the grant of medals in connexion with the 'Tripoli action,' when one of the unusual value of £100 was awarded to Lieutenant Shovell (p. 398), the commanders of the men-of-war receiving medals 'of about £60 price,' and 'those of fireships and lesser vessels proportionably'¹ (p. 373). Other grants also for exceptional service are recorded in the text (pp. 123, 160, 229, 402, 437, 456, 462, 469, 485).

The establishment of examinations for naval officers belongs to the period of the Admiralty Commission of 1673. On November 14, 1674, it was ordered that no one should in future be appointed to command a 6th-rate, where, as no master was allowed, the commander himself acted as master, without being examined and certified by Trinity House 'as the masters of ships of the other rates are' (p. 87). This requirement did not at first extend to officers who, having commanded greater ships, were appointed to command 6th-rates, as they were disposed to 'take it as an indignity to be subject to an examination by the Trinity House when they come to serve the King

¹ The details of the distribution are given on p. 437.

as commanders of smaller ships' (p. 493), but on September 1, 1677, the order was made to apply to these also (*ib.*).

To the same date belongs the first reference in debate to the need of establishing an examination for candidates for the office of lieutenant. At this meeting James, Duke of York, was present and strongly supported the proposal (p. 493); and it was committed to Mr. Pepys to prepare the necessary regulations for approval (p. 494). These were presented to the Board of Admiralty on December 1, 1677 (p. 535). The 'large debate' by the Lords (p. 535) and the important conference between the Navy Board and the principal commanders of the fleet which followed it (p. 543) are minuted in the text, and an abstract of the establishment itself, dated December 18, 1677, has been printed already in another volume.¹ On January 20, 1677-8, the King and Lords were receiving the news that four candidates had passed and one had failed with great satisfaction, 'in the prospect it gives them of the good breed of lieutenants, and consequently of commanders, which may hereafter be expected in the navy' (p. 569).

The regulation of naval chaplains was first propounded by Pepys himself. On December 2, 1676, he moved the Lords to take into their consideration 'the business of the chaplains of his Majesty's ships:—how few commanders take any; the ill choice generally made of those that are entertained, both for ignorance and debauches, to the great dishonour of God and the Government, and the encouragement of profaneness'

¹ *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 203.

and dissoluteness in the fleet (p. 383). The Lords approved the motion 'as a thing most necessary and seasonable' and 'commanded Mr. Pepys to prepare himself to give them a full account of the ancient and present practice of the navy in that particular of appointing of chaplains, when his Majesty shall be present.' On February 3, 1676-7, the business was 'opened' to his Majesty, 'with the ill effects of the present want of a regulation therein with regard to the honour of God Almighty, to his Majesty, and the preservation of sobriety and good discipline in his fleet, all of which at this day suffer under the liberty left to captains either to carry no chaplains or ill, illiterate ones, while the poor seaman at the same time contributes his 4*d.* per month out of his pay whether he has any spiritual benefit from a chaplain or not' (p. 400). The result was the passing of five resolutions (pp. 401-2), which formed the basis of the establishment for chaplains of December 15, 1677, entered in Pepys's 'Naval Precedents.'¹ A minute of October 27, 1677, records an application from the chaplain of the Bristol, supported by certificates 'shewing the extraordinary duty by him performed' in Virginia, 'in preaching in several parts of the country, in long journeys by him taken for administering the sacrament of baptism in places unsupplied with ministers, in visiting the condemned rebels, and preaching to the country the doctrine of obedience' (p. 511), for 'some consideration from his Majesty above his ordinary pay.'

¹ Pepysian MSS., No. 2867, p. 161, discussed in *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 205-8. See also pp. 545, 546 below.

Discipline may perhaps be held to cover naval abuses, and of these there are several instances.

Early in the 'Journal' a reference occurs to frauds upon ships' books (pp. 45, 47, 67, 70)¹; and in February 1674-5 something of the nature of systematic falsification was discovered by the labours of a certain Mr. Jones (p. 132), whose name is constantly reappearing in the minutes for the next eighteen months. He produced witnesses to implicate seven ships in frauds to the value of about £3000 altogether—'bearing persons who never appeared'; 'entering others before they appeared'; 'bearing men longer than they served or making them discharged who should be made "run"'; or, lastly, charging men with clothes who either had none or not so much as is set down in the books' (p. 135). In particular, he quoted a case of 'two women borne on the Ruby' under men's names, and another in which the captain's dog drew pay 'on the Thomas and Francis' 'under the name of Mr. Bromley' (*ib.*).

The witnesses to these transactions were generally 'stewards of the ships wherein the frauds are found, and actors in the said frauds' (*ib.*), and in order to meet the expense of maintaining, not only these, but the clerks and spies by whose aid his enquiries were conducted (p. 146), Mr. Jones insisted 'peremptorily' upon an advance of £500, in addition to £200 which had been already supplied him from the privy purse and £200 more from the Lord Treasurer (p. 135). The Lords made several futile efforts to extract

¹ For another case of falsification of a ship's books and its punishment, see pp. 254, 478, 499, 574.

from Mr. Jones a detailed account of his past disbursements (pp. 136, 145, 146, 150, 170, 183), but obtained 'no sort of satisfaction' (p. 195), in one instance receiving from him a reply 'in a style and manner very offensive to their Lordships' (p. 146). From this point Mr. Jones's stock began to go down. The Treasurer of the Navy became frankly sceptical, informing the King 'that, by what he could observe at his being present at so much of Mr. Jones's pretended discoveries as had yet been examined, every penny his Majesty would save by them would cost him a pound' (p. 151). The Lords refused to allow him to copy any more ships' books, and attempted without success to recover the copies already taken (pp. 148, 151); while in place of the advance of £500 for which he had applied, on February 13 they set aside £50, out of which small sums were doled out to the informers from time to time (pp. 150, 153, 157), until, on June 12, they were all discharged (p. 183).

The ships' books which had been impeached by Mr. Jones and his witnesses had been handed over for examination, on February 4, to four clerks of the navy (p. 136), and their report came before the Lords on July 28. It shewed 'the little fruits and extraordinary charge of the said Jones's undertaking' (p. 200), and the resolutions subsequently founded upon it (p. 203) made it clear that no more money would be forthcoming, although Jones was encouraged to further investigations and promised one-third of any moneys which he might succeed in recovering for the King. Mr. Jones was not satisfied with this and

repeated his solicitations for more money (pp. 234, 235), but the Lords were firm. Although on April 22, 1676, it is observed in a minute that 'no visible benefit has yet redounded to his Majesty from the said Jones's informations hitherto' (p. 304), he appears to have successfully exposed 'many foul frauds' on their ships' books by the pursers of the *Adventure* and the *Speedwell* (p. 171). The 'unfaithfulnesses' of the deputy-purser of the *Stavoreen* (p. 208) were also, in all probability, detected by his investigations. In June 1676 Mr. Jones was still busily pursuing his enquiries (pp. 322, 338), presumably tempted by the prospect of sharing in the spoil, and then nothing more is heard of this sordid personage until October 27, 1677, when he is contemptuously referred to as 'Jones the informer' ¹ (p. 512).

The revelations of Mr. Jones also affected no less important a person than Major Thomas Beckford, the slopseller of the navy.

The earliest reference to 'frauds pretended to be discovered in Major Beckford the slopseller's dealings' is on February 4, 1674-5 (p. 137), when Mr. Jones produced as a witness one of Beckford's servants who stated that he had been offered 1000 guineas 'to go out of the way' by the purser of the *Monmouth*, 'who gave this as the reason, that if the business of Mr. Jones's accusations should go on against Major Beckford it would at last fall upon the pursers.' On June 12 the disclosures began to come in (p. 186). The Treasurer of the Navy stated that 'upon his late

¹ For another instance of the use and reward of informers, see p. 117.

examinations in the business of Mr. Jones's discoveries, there appeared many irregularities in the proceedings of the slopseller by combination with the pursers, by vending of clothes of greater prices than those allowed of by the navy establishment, and them not rated and sold at the mast as they ought to have been, but without account kept thereof by any that should control it, so as under the head of clothes several things are said to be vended to the impoverishing of the seamen.' An instance was quoted 'where a purser appears as the ship's book is made up to have issued clothes to the value of above £1000, where the value of what he had truly been furnished from the slopseller amounted not to £400.' 'Upon debate' it was found 'that these irregularities did not arise from any imperfection in the present constitution of the navy but from the corruption practised in the execution of it,' and the Officers of the Navy were authorised to employ other slopsellers, 'notwithstanding any warrant heretofore granted to the present slopseller of the navy,' taking care 'that such provision be made for the due inspecting and controlling the slops to be hereafter provided, before they be put on board the King's ships, as may render this change of hands effectual for the preventing the evils before mentioned' (p. 187). It was stated that £8000 had been fraudulently received by the slopseller upon false bills of clothes (p. 297); and that the King had suffered 'very great damage' by having 'the wages forfeited by runaways set upon the heads of the said runaways under that of clothes, to the defrauding his Majesty of what ought to be

saved to him thereon' (p. 264). On August 7 Beckford is described as 'late slopseller of the navy,' 'suspended from the execution of his place as slopseller,' but is allowed to make his defence before the Lords (p. 204). On August 21 Beckford appeared at the Board with his counsel and argued that he had only supplied clothes above the ordinary prices to officers and volunteers, to whom the rules relating to ordinary seamen did not apply, and in so doing he was only following what had been the constant practice; that any failure to rate clothes at the mast was due to the neglect of the captains; and that if 'brandy and other things' had been issued by the pursers under the name of clothes, it was without his knowledge (pp. 210, 211). In spite of this, on March 4, 1675-6, all payments to him were ordered to be stopped (p. 288).

From this point, however, Major Beckford's affairs took a turn for the better. Mr. Jones laid informations against him in the Court of Exchequer, but the report of the auditors was favourable (pp. 325, 335), and after long delay, on September 8, 1677, Beckford presented a petition 'shewing his *quietus est* out of the Exchequer for the matters upon which he has been so long prosecuted there by Jones and his fellow-informers' (p. 496), and asking for some of the money due to him for clothes in order that he might be enabled to take up the office of Sheriff of the City of London. After some reflection upon the usefulness of his past service and 'the chargeable prosecution he had gone through and acquitted himself of,' it was resolved, 'upon consideration

of the said *quietus* granted him after so long a prosecution by Jones, that he should be restored to the exercise of his place as slopseller as formerly' (p. 497). It was also agreed to pay him £3000 on account (p. 506); and in October he was knighted as one of the Sheriffs of the City (p. 583).

The perennial abuse of chips came early under the notice of the Admiralty, and after a gallant but futile attempt to grapple with it, the Board gracefully surrendered to the inevitable.

On March 16, 1673-4, a proposal was considered from 'one Ward,' who undertook 'to prove considerable particulars therein,' and prayed 'the employment of looking after chips' (p. 26). On this the Navy Board reported on July 11, 1674 (p. 56), and they were directed to consider 'how to prevent the abuse in chips by putting them into a method of being sold.' It was decided on October 31 to give this method a six months' trial (p. 74), but it was found that, 'by a combination among the parties interested in the advantage arising from the continuance of the old practice of permitting the workmen to carry away the chips,' nobody could be found to buy them, and they were accumulating in the yards in such quantities as to be dangerous (p. 156). It was therefore resolved, on February 27, 1674-5, 'that they (that is to say, the small chips and shavings, the greater which are fit for the pitch-kettle being to be kept for that use) be accordingly carried out of the King's yard and there left to the poor of the neighbourhood' (p. 157). This arrangement appears to have subsisted until May 19,

1677, when 'upon debate largely had upon that matter, and the considerations offered for it by the Officers of the Navy, viz. the trouble and charge the King is at in gathering and laying up of the chips, much exceeding the profit that can be made of them, there being nobody that will buy them; the discouragement that it will be of to the workmen that shall be pressed out of merchants' yards, where they have greater wages and chips, to come to the King's for less wages and no chips; the frequent attempts of taking away chips, even by an addition to the workmen's wages, but still unsuccessful¹: his Majesty and their Lordships did conclude it expedient at this time to settle the workmen at liberty to serve themselves with the chips, as heretofore they have done; but not by any public warrant to license them thereto but by a silent connivance permitted to the officers of the yard to give way to the workmen's falling to their ancient practice of gathering chips at their leaving off work, with caution, however, given to the said officers, and particularly the porters of the yards, to use all industry to prevent the return of the old abuse complained of, of their carrying away unlawful chips'² (p. 429).

7. SHIPS³

The efficiency of the Admiralty Commission of 1673-9 and the far-sighted character of their naval

¹ The modern parallel is the abolition of tips.

² For a definition of lawful chips, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. ii. p. xxxv.

³ See also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 221-32; vol. ii. pp. xxxiii-xxxiv; vol. iii. pp. xliii-xlvii.

policy are nowhere better illustrated than in the history of the building of the thirty new ships provided for by the Act of 1677; for this the 'Journal' supplies important materials.

On March 22, 1676-7, when the debates in Parliament were still proceeding and it appeared that the bill 'cannot probably be finished for some time yet to come,' the King, 'considering the approaching season for felling and providing timber, and in general that no time ought to be lost in the dispatch of this important work' (p. 407), recommended the Navy Board at once to make enquiries where 'materials of all sorts, both home and foreign, may be had'; to consider well in advance the distribution of the ships to the various building-places; to 'be thinking of the number and weight of guns for a ship of each rate, and the best principal dimensions and scantlings to be established therein'; and to be providing purveyors 'to send abroad to look out for timber' (*ib.*). The investigations about building-places were to extend to the whole kingdom, and were not to be limited to the King's yards (p. 412). There is reason for thinking that these timely measures originated with Pepys, acting in consultation with the experts of the Navy Board (p. 407 *n.*).

The question was next considered, whether the new ships should be built by contract or in the King's yards. It was urged in the course of the important debates which followed (pp. 414, 431-4): (1) That it is the contractor's interest 'to perform his work as slightly as he can,' whereas 'it cannot be of any profit to the King's own

workmen to do so,' who are 'concerned in honour to build as well and strong as they can, forasmuch as they are by their offices tied to be in the way of their reproaches that shall attend the ill proof of their works, which the builder by contract meets not with nor valueth when he has put his ship once out of his hand'; (2) that all the shipcarpenters in England are not more than the King's yards can employ, and to build ships by contract will therefore only be to set up competitors with the King for the services of these men; (3) that 'the setting persons to work by contract before all be provided for that can be done in the King's own yards, doth but encourage others to go to market for materials at the same time with the King, to the enhancing the prices thereof,' and consequently raises the same difficulties in reference to materials as to workmen; (4) that the contract price per ton is already higher than the calculations of Parliament allow for, and will be raised still further if the merchant-builders discover that the King is 'under necessity of making use of and depending upon them.' It was therefore resolved that 'it be forthwith given out by the Officers of the Navy that his Majesty doth purpose to build the whole number in his own yards and not any of them by contract,' 'it being judged time enough to discourse hereafter about building by contract when his Majesty shall see the utmost that can be expected to be done by his own hands in his own yards.' A single exception was made in favour of Mr. Baylie, a shipbuilder at Bristol, as 'the remoteness of the place' prevented its

competing with the King either for materials or men. Meanwhile steps were to be taken to improve the accommodation in the King's yards (pp. 431, 441), and to use them to their utmost capacity (pp. 433, 442). On June 23 the Officers of the Navy were able to report that they could find places 'for their going in hand with 15 new ships together within the present year' (p. 458), and by September the second fifteen were beginning to come under consideration (p. 492).

Although Charles II may not have been the initiator of this vigorous shipbuilding policy, it is clear from the minute-book that he intervened effectively in determining important questions of detail. In 1674 he had already ordered an increase in the dimensions of certain ships building at Harwich (p. 54); and when the plans for the thirty new ships were being discussed in May 1677 he declared 'his opinion and pleasure' that 'the principal consideration to be had as to the size of the ships be the pitching upon such dimensions as may render them by their force and build most capable of performing the service they are designed for,' adding, that if Parliament should object to any increase of cost involved in a bolder policy than was at first designed, 'he would rather choose to make it good out of his own purse than hazard the wronging the ships for want of it' (p. 415). In the course of the same debate the King anticipated the modern method of standardisation, recommending to the Officers of the Navy 'that the numbers and dimensions of ports, and all the principal sizes and measures

requisite to be observed in the building of a ship and fitting her with masts, yards, blocks, etc., be one and the same in every of the new ships of the same rank, the conveniencies arising therefrom being most obviously great and many' (p. 414). A little later, when the Officers of the Navy presented to the Board of Admiralty a table of burthens and dimensions calculated 'as near as they could to the burthens first proposed by Mr. Pepys to the House of Commons,' the King instructed them 'to calculate another anew,' on the basis of the increased dimensions proposed by him (pp. 423, 428, 430, 463, 481). A minute of July 7, 1677 (p. 468), refers to a 'late proposition and determination of his Majesty's for the building of ships with upright stems'¹; and when Mr. Pett, the master-shipwright at Chatham, proposed to reduce the draught of the 2nd and 3rd-rates, 'his Majesty was pleased to enter largely upon the debate of that matter,' and to 'determine that the depth of water appointed to the several rates of ships in his late table of dimensions shall be strictly kept to, and that Mr. Pett be directed to conform himself to the same' (p. 468).²

The preparations made in advance for the building of the thirty new ships were much concerned with the provision of timber. Sir Anthony Deane gave it 'as his plain opinion that, whatever we may do for straight, there is not compass timber enough to be had in England for the building of these ships,' and the Navy Officers

¹ See also p. 607.

² For another illustration of the King's personal interest in the dimensions of ships, see pp. 566, 569.

were therefore instructed 'to look out timely for supply thereof from abroad' (p. 415). The rules which had hitherto governed naval contracts were relaxed, 'as a thing indispensable' (p. 416); and it was decided that the Navy Officers should discourse with the merchants who dealt in materials, invite tenders for naval commodities by notices at the Custom House and Exchange and by advertisement in the *Gazette*, send those of their number who were experts on the question 'personally into the country to view woods,' write from their Office 'to such persons from several parts of England as they can hear to be proprietors of timber,' and send out purveyors 'to look out for what they cannot otherwise obtain the knowledge of' (p. 419). It was decided to lay the keels at once without waiting 'in expectation of making greater collections of timber first' (p. 442), but for a time the want of it caused some apprehension. Not only was there 'a backwardness of gentlemen to part with their timber beyond what was expected,' but 'a real want of timber of some sorts proper for this work not to be supplied in the nation' (p. 471)¹; and Prince Rupert suggested a visit to the woods in Germany (p. 472), while there was some talk of using 'beechen wood and plank' from the Forest of Dean, which is 'allowed to answer all uses under water as well as oak' (p. 475). In the end, however, offers came in from various quarters (pp. 434, 472, 554, 576), and on August 3, 1678, the Navy Officers were able to report 'that timber is everywhere drawing into his Majesty's yards as fast as

¹ See also p. 497.

may be this season' (p. 595). In the following February they were negotiating with the Bishop of Winchester for 'timber belonging to the Church' (p. 639), and in April with the Bishop of Salisbury (p. 652).

The work of building was pressed on with the greatest energy, and on June 16, 1677, the Lords of the Admiralty called upon the Officers of the Navy for 'a weekly report in writing of their progression and present state of their works' (p. 454). To secure the regular production of these reports needed some pressure (pp. 469, 471, 479), and the Lords eventually modified their demand and invited the Officers 'to bring in as often as they conveniently can' the number and progress of the new ships (p. 500). This produced two weekly reports in succession (pp. 505, 512), followed by a long silence, a remonstrance (p. 551), and an improvement,¹ the report being once more described as a 'weekly account.'

In December 1677 the question of building by contract was again raised by the presentation to the Board of a proposal for building six 3rd-rates in private yards. 'His Majesty, casting his eye over it, observed . . . that though he be still of opinion that the great ships be all built by his own builders, yet forasmuch as we are at this day and shall daily find ourselves more and more in want of 4th and 5th-rate ships for convoys and cruisers, it might be very advisable to try at what rates, where, and how soon we may have some new ships of those rates built . . . by contract' (p. 561). This suggestion was followed up, and

¹ See pp. 553, 578, 579, 588, 594, 607, 612, 614, 635, 639.

it was decided to build by contract all the 3rd-rates not yet definitely assigned to the King's yards (pp. 563, 568).

On March 1, 1678-9, it was 'observed by his Majesty and my Lords that of the thirty ships designed by the Parliament order is taking for the building of 29' (p. 641); and a month later the remaining vessel, a 2nd-rate, was assigned to the King's yard at Portsmouth (p. 652).

The energetic shipbuilding policy which hurried on the new ships was also directed to the repair of the old. In a report signed October 12, 1674, Sir Anthony Deane had made a general survey of the King's ships (p. 80), and on this the Navy Officers based a report of their own 'touching the state of the hulls of all his Majesty's ships, what the money, materials, and time required for the repair thereof,' which first came up for consideration at the end of November (pp. 100, 103). The want of money and the 'lowness of our stores' delayed the business of repairs (p. 223), and as the King had given an undertaking to Parliament to carry it through out of his own revenue, 'without any aid from them other than for the building of new ships' (p. 288), it was not until March 22, 1676-7, that the Navy Officers were instructed to enter men for that special purpose (p. 409). In May, however, 'together with the building of the new ships, the repair of the old ones and the dispatch thereof is concluded upon to be with no less sedulousness to be provided for and forwarded, for the putting his Majesty in a condition of having a fleet at sea if the same shall be called for before the new ones can be built' (p. 411). In that connexion 'it

was concluded most necessary ' that thirty-two ships which were capable of being repaired in twelve weeks ' should instantly be gone in hand with with all diligence ' (p. 412). For this purpose, as well as for new building, powers to press workmen and artificers were to be taken by the Navy Board (pp. 420, 422, 425). The estimate of time was unduly sanguine, and in November it was complained by the Lord Treasurer that not half the work on the thirty-two old ships was done although money had been freely supplied (p. 517). ' To which the Officers of the Navy gave some present answer, by saying that they are not behindhand in any part of the work of the old ships ' save three ' whose works upon opening them proves much greater than could be foreseen till opened ' ; but this bare denial does not obscure the fact that the twelve weeks talked of in May had already been spun out to five months.

Several references are to be found in the ' Journal ' to the heavy cost of the maintenance of the galley stationed at Tangier. The Officers of the Navy estimated this at £17,000 a year (p. 198), ' without any benefit yet seen from it to his Majesty ' (p. 224). Their figures were criticised by James, Duke of York (p. 238), and a revised estimate reduced the charge to £10,400 (p. 257) ; but in February 1675-6 it was decided to pay her off and lay her up and dispose of the slaves (pp. 279, 286). In June 1677 it was reported that she had received great damage in her hull by the worm, and the King signified his pleasure that she should be handed over to Sir Roger Strickland and Colonel George Legge,

‘ as his Majesty’s free gift and bounty to them equally, in consideration of the acceptable service by them severally performed to his Majesty ’ (p. 465). Before the decision to lay up the galley was taken, a proposal had been considered from the Marchese Imperiali, ‘ a cavalier of Genoa,’ for his undertaking ‘ the command, conduct, and expense of his Majesty’s two galleys in the Mediterranean at the rate of £5000 a galley yearly ’ (p. 219). The second galley may have been the one referred to in a minute of November 14, 1674 (p. 87), as a gift from Genoa.

The Mediterranean galley was a failure, but it was replaced by a new and successful design—the galley-frigate. On February 6, 1675–6, when the Lords were considering ‘ the great expense of maintaining ’ the galley at sea (p. 275), the Navy Board presented another estimate ‘ of the charge of building a vessel of the design lately proposed by his Majesty for the answering the service both of a frigate and a galley, as the occasion shall require it ’ (p. 276). A fortnight later the King was ‘ pleased to declare his inclinations to the having a second galley-frigate built ’ (p. 285). The first, the James galley, was to be built by contract, and the second, the Charles galley, in the King’s own yard at Woolwich. The estimate of the cost of the latter was £4535 (p. 293). The Charles galley was launched in September 1676 (pp. 349, 351), the ‘ ornaments designed . . . by Mr. Pett ’ being left to be done ‘ on float ’ (p. 354); these included an expenditure of £35 for gilding (p. 359). The two galley-frigates were to be provided with ‘ 80 watermen

each for the use of the oar ' (pp. 353, 362)—' lusty young men ' chosen by Watermen's Hall (p. 379)—and were each to carry a 'boatswain extraordinary for the government of the men at the oar ' (p. 371). They were also equipped with fire-hearths of a novel pattern (p. 389), and sheathed with lead (p. 353). These vessels soon proved their value in the Mediterranean (p. 518); estimates were therefore prepared for building two more (p. 526), and arrangements were made with the builders (p. 561), although, owing to the ending of the war with Algiers, these do not appear to have been actually laid down. They were to be ' built 6 inches broader in the midships ' than the Charles (p. 526), and it was suggested, as the result of experience at the boarding and retaking of the Golden Marigold, that some small guns should be mounted between decks (p. 548); but the King came to the conclusion that ' the same could neither be done without interruption to the oars, nor would be very useful if it could be done,' and the ' said proposals ' were accordingly ' laid aside ' (p. 562).

The policy of building ships specialised to particular purposes, of which the galley-frigates are the most important instance, had already appeared as early as September 1674, when Deane had been instructed to build ' by contract in the river of Thames ' two small frigates for use ' against those of Sallee ' (pp. 66, 71, 102); and throughout the period the King appears to have kept an open mind and to have welcomed new experiments. In 1676 Sir John Narbrough brought the Londra from Tripoli, ' for information for

his Majesty of their manner of build ' (p. 383) ; and on March 22, 1676-7, he acquainted the Navy Officers that ' he had appointed young Lawrence, son of Mr. Lawrence the shipwright's assistant at Chatham, to build a small vessel in imitation of a brigantine, to be paid for out of his privy purse ' (p. 408). She was appropriately named the Experiment (p. 480).

During the period several more yachts were built—the Charles, by Sir Anthony Deane (pp. 199, 228), at a cost of £1500, of which £1000 was provided out of the King's privy purse (p. 247) ; the Charlotte, built by Mr. Phineas Pett at Woolwich (p. 371), to which the King contributed £500 (pp. 391, 408) ; and the Henrietta, built by Mr. Thomas Shish, ' to be of the same bigness with the Charlotte ' ¹ (p. 638). Between 1673 and 1679 the Deal yacht, the Isle of Wight, the Katherine, the Mary, the Navy yacht, and the Portsmouth were also launched, as appears from Pepys's ' Register of Ships.' ²

On November 3, 1677, report was made to the Board of Admiralty of ' some extraordinary lavishness of expense adventured upon by Mr. Pett, master-shipwright of Chatham, without order and beyond all example, in the carving and gilding of a boat fore and aft for his Royal Highness's new yacht the Mary ' (p. 519), and the Duke of York, who was present, expressed himself strongly with regard to the ' liberty ' which the shipwrights ' are found daily to usurp of adorning their ships with carving, painting, and gilding, without any limita-

¹ She was a little larger—162 tons as compared with 142.
Catalogue of Pepysian MSS., i. 295.

tion but at their own pleasure' (p. 520). They generally gave as their authority 'his Majesty's verbal command,' and it was therefore established 'as a standing rule in the navy' that no works of the kind were to be undertaken without an order in writing, and that expenditure incurred without such order should be made good out of the salary of the offender (p. 521), an exception being made in the case of 'the paintings provided by Mr. Pett, the master-builder at Woolwich, by his Majesty's own command . . . as they are now to be found in and upon his new yacht the Charlotte' (*ib.*). The Navy Board also prepared designs for the future ornamentation of ships of each rate, 'thereby to prevent the extravagant and (at the best) uncertain expensefulness of builders in their adorning of their ships' (p. 565).

The vexed question of lead-sheathing has been discussed elsewhere.¹ It will be enough to note here that the 'Journal' records many complaints of the decay of the ironwork, and especially of the rudder-irons, and of other defects, in ships so sheathed.²

During this period the yards were busy, and this is reflected in certain administrative changes. In 1675 Mr. Pett of Woolwich, who had hitherto ranked only as an assistant to the master-shipwright at Deptford (p. 236), was made independent of Deptford 'as the master-attendant of Woolwich lately was' (*ib.*), and was 'raised to the title and wages of a master-shipwright' (p. 243), as 'the present work and trust belonging to that

¹ *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. ii. p. xxxiv, and vol. iii. p. xlvii.

² See pp. 162, 181, 185, 503, 575, 584, 615, 647.

employment' 'doth justly call at this day for a particular master-shipwright' (p. 248). It was also proposed in 1676 that a clerk of the survey should be established at Woolwich 'distinct from that at Deptford' (p. 284), and in 1678 this was carried out, the business of that office being 'found to contain work enough (as the service of the navy is now grown) for one whole man' (p. 583). On the other hand, when one of the two masters-attendant at Chatham died, it was decided in December 1677 'that for preventing the disagreements frequently happening (and which have often done so in the present case) between two persons equally entrusted with the whole execution of the same office,' his successor should only rank as assistant to the survivor (pp. 557, 565). We also find the chirurgeon of Deptford yard petitioning for an increase of salary 'answerable to his pretended increase of work there' (p. 592), and Mr. Pearse, the Chirurgeon-General of the Fleet, praying for the assistance of 'an able clerk' (p. 653).

Other matters of interest recorded are a discussion of the relative merits of Portsmouth and Chatham for the laying up of the King's ships (pp. 588, 598), and a similar debate concerning Dover and Sheerness for the cleaning and refitting of 6th-rates (p. 656); and a pronouncement of November 17, 1677, by Mr. Pepys on the rating of ships (p. 527). After giving his Majesty and the Lords 'a short account of the history of dividing the Navy Royal into rates,' he called attention to 'the present ill assortment,' and it was agreed to adopt the following distinctions

for the 'chiefer rates': 'The 1st and 2nd to be distinguished from the lower by their having 3 decks, the 3rd to contain all ships of 2 decks from 60 guns upward, the 4th from 40 guns up to 60' (p. 528).

8. GUNS¹

The 'Journal' contains several references to the important establishment of men and guns made in 1677, the chief credit for which was claimed by Pepys himself.²

On October 17, 1676, 'their Lordships press the Officers of the Navy to the dispatch of the establishment, so long since referred to them to prepare, of men and guns for the fleet' (p. 361). The question still, however, remained in abeyance until May 8, 1677, when the question was raised of the manning and gunning of the thirty new ships (p. 418), 'which necessarily introducing a debate touching the establishment much wanted, and which has been long in hand at the Navy Board, for the manning and gunning the whole present fleet upon such measures as might be standing, certain, and indifferent from all ships, both built and to be built, and that without which the manning and gunning of these 30 cannot be rightly determined,' it was referred to the Officers of the Navy and Ordnance, in consultation with some of the principal commanders of the fleet, to present to the Admiralty a joint report. Meanwhile the establishment, in so far as it had been

¹ See also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. i. pp. 233-44; vol. iii. p. xlviii.

See *ib.*, i. 233, note 1.

provisionally agreed upon, was to be put in execution for the ships now going to sea (p. 420). After conferences at the Navy Office and elsewhere, between the Officers of the Navy and Ordnance, the whole question was 'largely debated' at a meeting of the Admiralty Commission on May 17, several of the flag-officers being called in, and the establishment for the new ships was 'settled with general approbation and ordered to be drawn up fair and jointly signed by the Officers of the Navy and officers of the fleet, with alterations made therein to be confirmed by the Lords of the Admiralty and by them handed to and ratified at the Council Board' (p. 425). That for the old fleet was recommitted to the Officers of the Navy, 'to be made to answer in the great ships to the new ships of like dimensions, and in the lesser to be perfected by what measures they can; the officers of the fleet declaring them to be the only proper judges of it, and that themselves could not have done it so well as the Officers have, who in the general they acknowledge to have provided as large numbers of men as they could wish, though they differ something in opinion from them in the manner of distributing them' (p. 426). Finally, on July 14, a fresh debate took place, certain commanders of the fleet attending with the Officers of the Navy, and the general establishment, for old ships as well as new, was 'unanimously assented to by the Officers both of the Navy and Fleet,' and 'the whole approved of by his Majesty and my Lords; and resolved, that a new draught be fairly drawn of the whole and signed to by the Officers of the Navy, to be by them presented to

the Lords of the Admiralty for their approbation, and from them to be carried to the Council Table to receive its last confirmation there from the King, so as to be in no wise afterwards departed from, either by any particular commanders or the Admiral himself, unless authorised thereto by particular warrant from the Council Table' (p. 475). On November 3 the 'new draught,' 'fairly drawn' and signed by the Officers (*ib.*), was 'confirmed by the Lords in being by them also signed in usual manner above the said Officers, with his Majesty's own confirmation added thereto by his Royal hand at the top' (p. 518). On December 15 a duplicate of so much of the establishment as related to the guns only, 'transcribed fair for the use of the Ordnance,' was signed by the Board of Admiralty, 'the Master of the Ordnance being present and joining in the signing thereof' (p. 548).

9. MISCELLANEOUS ¹

Of miscellaneous matter of interest the 'Journal' is fortunately full.

The tribute of respect to the King's maritime sovereignty within his own seas,² which consisted in striking the flag and lowering the topsail in salute to his ships of war, was regularly exacted from foreign ships. During the Third Dutch War, when the French were our allies, this had been remitted as far as they were concerned (p. 23),

¹ See also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. ii. pp. xxxv-xxxvii; vol. iii. pp. xlix-liii.

² It was claimed that these extended southward as far as Cape Finisterre (pp. 449, 450 below); and this was so stated in the General Instructions.

but on May 10, 1674, it was ordered 'that the flag be now exacted from the French as it was and ought to have been before the war' (p. 44). On December 19 two French men-of-war were reported as having refused to strike to the *Bonadventure*, and 'being very clean,' outsailed her and got away, although she 'had fired 12 or 13 guns at the nearest of them' (pp. 112, 124, 159, 161, 174). On June 12, 1675, a similar case was reported to the Board of Admiralty (p. 182), when several shot passed between the *Cambridge* and some French men-of-war, 'and the flag by them finally denied to be strook' (p. 191). Against these successful escapes should be set a case reported on June 15, 1677, when two French men-of-war (or possibly privateers) were brought in who had 'not only refused but opposed with shot the striking to his Majesty's flag' (p. 449); the captains were handed over for trial in the Court of Admiralty, where they were fined £400, but the King's honour having been thus vindicated, the fines were remitted and the ships restored (p. 488).¹

English merchantmen often gave trouble by neglecting to salute the King's ships,² and their commanders would sometimes take drastic action. On February 20, 1674-5, Captain Tyte, commander of the *Richmond* yacht, reported that the master of 'an English merchantman come from the Canaries,' 'meeting with his Majesty's said yacht in the *Hope*, neglected to strike thereto, and refused to pay for the shot which Captain Tyte made at him for the forcing him to strike,

¹ For other cases see pp. 166, 167, 174, 194, 326, 335, 337, 590.

² For instances see pp. 52, 72, 123, 253, 268, 328, 332, 405.

for which Captain Tyte had taken away his poop-lantern and then detaining it' (p. 153). On March 3 it transpired that the same commander for a similar offence had taken away another merchantman's boat and had sent it into the King's stores at Deptford (p. 159). A 'Scotchman, master of a vessel of that kingdom,' was charged with 'several insolent words and behaviour given to his Majesty's flag' in St. Martin's Road (p. 268), and was ordered to be called to account for the same 'when he shall return to Leith, the place of his habitation' (p. 276). Another master of a merchant-ship, 'under pretence of having a commission from his Majesty, came up with his jack flying into the port of Lisbon without giving due salutes, to the great and just offence of the Portuguese and trouble of our merchants there' (p. 204).

On June 3, 1674, the Admiralty had decided to advise that the wearing of the King's jack by merchantmen should be forbidden by proclamation,¹ 'for preventing the inconveniencies that may arise from exceptions which may be taken thereto by our neighbours' striking to the same' (p. 49), merchant-ships being 'limited to the wearing nothing but St. George's flag' (p. 51). Sir Thomas Clutterbuck tried to obtain permission to wear the King's jack upon the victualling-vessels employed by him in the Mediterranean for the service of the fleet (pp. 210, 243, 249), but it was held 'unfit to be granted, from the ill uses which might be made of the same' to the Mediterranean trade, 'and disturbing of our peace with

¹ See also p. 61 below.

the Algerines ' (p. 269). Applications were also refused for the private yacht of the Governor of Dover (p. 332) and for a wool-catcher at Sandwich (pp. 477, 479) ; while the masters of two vessels belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company were summoned before the Board ' to answer for their presumption in wearing the King's jack ' (p. 380). The hired merchant-ships going with Sir John Berry to Virginia in November 1676 were allowed to wear jacks upon the outward voyage only (p. 368), and a London merchant going to Greenland in April 1678 was allowed to wear the jack ' beyond the North Cape of Norway ' (p. 577). On January 20, 1676-7, the East India Company was required to give up its special flag and to wear the colours ' commonly worn by the rest of his Majesty's subjects ' (p. 392).

On October 31, 1674, a controversy arose over the question whether foreign men-of-war were entitled to fly their pendants in the Downs (p. 74), and an investigation into earlier practice led to some interesting conclusions, ' it being upon discourse thereon observed, First, That pendants originally were not at all designed as a mark or distinction, but only ornaments ; Next, That at this day the wearing of a pendant at the maintop is that which is everywhere become the mark of distinguishing a man-of-war from a merchantman ; Thirdly, That our ensigns and jack, together with their lying in the admiral's berth, will sufficiently inform as well strangers as his Majesty's subjects which is the commander-in-chief, without the help of pendants. . . . Lastly, That no difficulty has at any time heretofore been made of permitting

strangers' men-of-war to wear their pendants in presence of the commanders-in-chief in the Downs no more than elsewhere, the respect challenged by his Majesty lying not in lowering of the pendants but the flag or topsail . . .' (p. 88). It was, however, decided that when the commander-in-chief in the Downs was not entitled to wear a flag, he should make use of a special mark of distinction (pp. 89, 102).

On March 7, 1673-4, 'a suit of the silk colours' was ordered for two of the King's new yachts (p. 17), and on October 2, 1675, for a third (p. 231); and in December 1677 the Admiralty was called upon to deal with a bill for £100 for a couple of special silk flags heraldically emblazoned, designed by Sir William Dugdale, King-at-Arms, for use on the two yachts which carried the Prince and Princess of Orange over to Holland. These are described below (p. 550).

On August 25, 1678, a question of precedence in 'the giving of salutes and setting of the watch at Portsmouth' was raised which caused great dissatisfaction among the sea commanders (p. 602). The King in his careless way had granted an order, 'without the privity of the Lords of the Admiralty,' to the Governor of the garrison there which gave him authority over the officer commanding the ships, 'to the great offence of the fleet then there, and supposed wrong not only to the authority of the Lord High Admiral of England but to the general discipline and necessary conduct of his Majesty's service in case of any action there by sea' (p. 661). The case was still pending when the Commission was dissolved.

On March 11, 1675-6, the King 'was pleased to acquaint their Lordships with his purpose of sending a 5th-rate ship at his own charge for the discovery of the North-East Passage' (p. 291), and Captain John Wood was appointed to go in command of the *Speedwell*, followed by 'another vessel provided at the private charge of his Royal Highness and some other adventurers,' with a view to 'the discovering of a future trade' (pp. 291, 296). The *Prosperous pink* was selected (p. 306), and the expedition sailed on May 28, 1676.¹ On June 29 the *Speedwell* was wrecked off the coast of Nova Zembla, and the *Prosperous pink* returned alone with her rescued crew. On August 26 Captain Wood appeared before the Board of Admiralty to give a verbal account of the disaster (p. 343), and on September 30 his journal was shewn to the King, who 'was pleased to peruse the same with great satisfaction' (p. 353). Captain Flawes, the master of the pink, was granted the value of the anchors and cables saved from the *Speedwell*, 'in consideration of his extraordinary humanity, care, and courage' in rescuing her company (p. 354). On March 1, 1678-9, a proposal came to the Board, through the Duke of Monmouth, 'from a certain foreigner, one Van Barge,' for another expedition (p. 642), but it does not appear to have been proceeded with.

Among references to the redemption of slaves (pp. 69, 76, 109) there occurs the case of the company of the Dartmouth, who paid £40 to redeem an Englishman out of an Algiers man-of-war, the

¹ Charnock, *Biographia Navalis*, i. 379, where an account of the voyage is given.

money being provided by the captain, and charged to the men, with their own consent, 'by equal proportions . . . in the column of clothes' (p. 271), in the hope of getting it back afterwards from the Admiralty. A minute of January 27, 1676-7, shews that there were slaves at Portsmouth, whose assistance was applied for by the city of Chichester 'to weigh some vessels that lately sunk by stress of weather in the mouth of that river, to the endangering the whole navigation of the said river in case the said vessels be not timely weighed' (p. 397); but it was suggested that a better and cheaper course would be to blow them up (p. 398).

On November 21, 1674, a petition was read from the ropemakers discharged from the King's yards, complaining that 'by reason of great quantities of yarn ready spun and cordage ready made brought over from foreign parts, they and their families are likely to be undone for want of work wherewith to support themselves,' and praying that a stop might be put to this importation (p. 92). The petition was referred to the King in Council, who directed the Officers of the Navy to enquire into 'the truth and reason of the said complaints' and to confer therein 'with some of the ablest East Country merchants, master-rope-makers, and others' (p. 104), and on January 16, 1674-5, they presented a report to the Lords (p. 126). A strike of lightermen (p. 591), the employment of naval officers on secret service (pp. 629, 636), and the arrangements for carrying letters to the fleet in the Downs (pp. 445, 447, 482, 580) are also matters of interest.

On February 2, 1673-4, there is a reference to a fire at the Navy Office, an allowance of £80 for rent being made to those Officers of the Navy who were burnt out (p. 7); and in December 1674, negotiations were opened for the purchase of ground in Seething Lane adjoining the Office, with a view to its 'more commodious rebuilding' (pp. 109, 222, 252, 284, 375, 380, 386), as it was 'found too strait for the dispatch of the business of the Office, and judged unsafe for the papers lying therein' (p. 301). It was also proposed 'to hire that part of Mr. Bland's house in Mark Lane which he and his family inhabits in' (pp. 300, 303) for the same purpose.

The King appears to have freely utilised naval materials for his private purposes, but not always without payment. His Majesty's gardener, Mr. Rose, had '500 yards of old canvas and a barrel of tar for the use of his gardens and trees' (p. 23); Mr. Hugh May, comptroller of the works at Windsor, obtained leave 'to cull out of his Majesty's store of the navy any extraordinary deals that he shall judge fit for the service of his Majesty's house' there (p. 406), at cost price; the same functionary also borrowed 'a supply of 5 or 6 old sails for the securing the finishing of some choice flowers and joinery-work' at Windsor (p. 444), and a quantity of old canvas 'for his Majesty's bird-cage in St. James's Park' (pp. 458, 482). On February 12, 1675-6, Sir Jonas Moore, the mathematician, obtained '2 or 3 unserviceable masts and other small pieces of timber for spars for the use of the observatory now in building by his Majesty in his park at Greenwich' (p. 280),

and on March 18 he came for a second supply (p. 293).

A grant was made for the erection of a light-house on Spurn Head, but on July 17, 1674, the Trinity House reported against it, and the grant was withdrawn (p. 57). We also hear of a breach in the river walls of the Medway near Rochester (pp. 68, 72, 169); of 'the importance and present bad condition' of the pier at Dover (p. 79); of damage to the harbour there as the result of a storm (p. 96); and of the danger of the sea 'breaking over the neck of land near Blockhouse Point on Gosper side, to the spoiling the harbour of Portsmouth' (pp. 547, 554). In November and December 1676 there are several allusions to a frost of exceptional severity (pp. 372, 380, 382, 384). In April 1677 there was a fire at Chatham yard (p. 411).

The 'Journal' contains allusions to Sir Samuel Morland's inventions—the 'pumps and other engines relating to the navy' and 'the mill by him set up in the dock at Chatham' (pp. 235, 351, 490); also to 'an engine designed by one Mr. Beane for the warping any of the ships down the River against the wind' (p. 642); and also to the productions of less favoured inventors—Mr. Gaudy's proposal 'for blowing up of ships,' 'rejected as vain' (pp. 333, 343), and one Thomas Smith's invention of an 'extraordinary pump' (p. 465). The King took a keen interest in them all, and when the last-named came before the Board he 'seemed already informed and satisfied in the folly of the said invention.'

The pensions of £100 a year granted to each

of the two Van de Veldes, father and son, 'for the service they are employed in by his Majesty of drawing and painting of sea-ships' (p. 114) led in August 1676 to a petition from 'Mr. Poyntz the tapestry man' for 'a standing salary to be settled upon him upon the score of his being employed in the working of a suit of hangings historical of our late sea-fights' (p. 340), and in July 1677 to another from Thomas Phillipps, 'some time employed by his Majesty in the drawing and designing of battles at sea' (p. 470). These were both refused until the King 'should be in better condition in his treasure than he now is for the unnecessary multiplying of his pensions' (p. 471).

The discovery in the Thames of the body of a drowned man led to a controversy between the Earl of Salisbury and the Court of Admiralty concerning 'the right of burying, etc., of the said body' (p. 376), the issue of which does not transpire. The 'sea-sufferings' of John Note, and 'the miserable estate of his body contracted by his being obliged to the saving himself upon a mast in the sea, and thereupon living 5 days and nights without sustenance,' obtained from the King's bounty a grant of £20, but 'not out of the navy, for preventing all ill consequences' (p. 524). An envoy from 'the Emperor of Muscovia,' returning to the Neva on board the Deptford ketch, was to have the 'ordinary ship provisions,' with 'some extraordinary supply of pepper, garlic, and brandy' for his entertainment (p. 347). The master-ropemaker at Chatham offered, 'upon some small encouragement to be granted him by his Majesty towards the same,' to read 'a public

mathematical lecture at stated times for the information of the youth in and about that place belonging to the navy ' (p. 391) ; it is not known whether the offer was accepted. The mother of Giles Bland, ' lately executed at Virginia upon the score of the rebellion there,' wrote a letter to the Officers of the Navy ' wherein are found words very reflective upon the Government and the proceedings of justice against him, vindicating the innocency of her son by an irreverent comparing thereof to that of his late sacred Majesty ' (p. 430), and the Attorney-General was directed to ' consider and report what course is open by law to punish the author of a letter so scandalous as this must be allowed to be ' (p. 431).

References are also found to ' sale by the candle ' (pp. 16, 452) ; to the sending of felons to the galley at Tangier (p. 187) ; and to the transportation of malefactors to Jamaica (p. 556) ; to ' two women being discovered to have listed themselves in men's habits (as soldiers) for his Majesty's service at Tangier, thereby to get passage with their husbands now going upon the Woolwich among the recruits for that place,' whom the King ' was graciously pleased ' to allow to proceed upon the voyage, presumably after a change of raiment (p. 475) ; and to the ' right of succession ' of the boatswain of the Royal Sovereign, as ' first boatswain of England,' to a vacancy in the office of master-attendant at Chatham (p. 619).

On June 30, 1677, Captain Voteer's failures in complying with the Lord High Admiral's Instructions as commander of the *Ann* and *Christopher* fireship were remitted ' upon the score of his not

being able to write and read,' but it was ordered that he 'be admonished from his Majesty and my Lords by Mr. Pepys to apply himself to the learning (late as it is) of both' (p. 464).

The Editor desires gratefully to acknowledge the kindness of the Master and Fellows of Magdalene College, Cambridge, in allowing him access to the manuscripts in the Library, and to thank the Pepysian Librarian, Mr. O. F. Morshead; the Admiralty Librarian, Mr. W. G. Perrin; and Mr. L. G. Carr Laughton for kind and ready help.

ALDEBURGH

March 14, 1923



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ERRATA

P. 44, note 4. The galley here referred to must be the one built at Pisa in 1671 by Beneditto Carlini; see p. 465 below and Pepys's 'Register of Ships' (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 273).

P. 53. *Dele.* note 5; the two Billopps must be different persons.

P. 83, line 20. 'The Norwich,' although so written in the MS., is clearly a mistake for 'the Nonsuch.'

P. 117, line 31. 'First,' although so in MS., should probably read 'for it.'

P. 229. *Dele.* note 1. The reference on p. 160 is to Captain Joseph Harris's service against De Ruyter; that on p. 229 is to Captain Leonard Harris's service under Sir Edward Spragge at Bugia Bay.

P. 545, note 1. For 'proved' read 'approved.'

ADDITIONAL NOTES

[See note on p. vii above.]

P. 213, line 2. The Record Office copy reads '£144,000.'

P. 239, line 8. The Record Office copy supports the emendation suggested in note 1, and reads 'keeping.'

P. 282. It corrects Pepys's Latin, reading, however, *officiari* for *officiales*.

P. 321, line 30 and note 5. The Record Office copy reads 'Vice-Admiralty' for 'Vice-Chamberlain.'

P. 329, line 20 and note 2. It reads 'commissioners' and not 'commanders.'

P. 441, line 24. The Record Office copy supplies the missing words and reads: 'By which means it was allowed on all hands that, if in other respects it should be thought fitting, convenient room may be had at Woolwich for the building of 4 ships together.'

P. 442. The Record Office copy does not contain the meaningless repetition referred to in the note.

P. 482, line 18 and note 3. It reads correctly: 'six months' imprisonment.'

P. 530. The Record Office copy restores the sentence omitted at the foot of the page, and reads: 'Next, they desired, and the Officers of the Navy also do by letter this day on their behalf propose, the duties at Lisbon being high, the King of Portugal may be prevailed with to excuse these gentlemen from payment of any duties for the victuals they shall provide or lodge at that port for the particular service of his Majesty's ships.'



CATALOGUE
OF
PEPYSIAN MSS.

ADMIRALTY JOURNAL

FROM JANUARY 1, 1673-4, TO APRIL 21, 1679

[Marbled boards calf-backed, without bookplate; marbled edges. Press mark No. 2865. 4 blank pp.; 1146 pp. unnumbered; 7 blank pp. Abstracts of minutes not given in full are printed in small type. The MS. is written in Pepys's own hand with occasional corrections by another. The meetings of the Commission are probably at Derby House unless otherwise stated.]

JANUARY 3, 1673-4

[*Present*: The King; Lord Privy Seal¹; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain²; Mr. Speaker.³]

RESOLVED, that the strangers' ships employed by his Majesty's subjects during the war may in their protections⁴ be allowed two Englishmen to navigate them.

That Mr. Pepys should write again to Captain Rooth to send up a list of the merchant fleet in the Downs.⁵

¹ The Earl of Anglesey.

² Sir George Carteret.

³ Edward Seymour; he had been elected Speaker of the House of Commons, 18th Feb., 1673.

⁴ On the system of protections against pressing, see *Admiralty Letters* (Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.: Navy Records Society Publications), vol. ii., p. xxii.

⁵ The letter was written 5th Jan. 'one at night' (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 1019; see also Nos. 1012 and 1037).

The Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy attending did upon this debate declare that whatever the King's case was as to men, without a supply of money answerable to their late demands the ships must not be looked for to be ready, and particularly fireships.

Mr. Speaker presents a project of a method for the improving the rules now in being for the better methodizing the course of payment of navy bills, which was ordered to be referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider and report their opinions in, together with an addition propounded by Mr. Pepys of a control to be provided against any partiality in the numbering of bills to that of paying them afterwards according to their number.

The business of Colonel Russell's pretence to a prize given him by the King for the repair of Newhaven.

The petition of Captain Sadlington's wife for his wages referred to the Treasurer of the Navy.

Proposals from the Officers of the Navy 'touching the number and method of providing tenders for the fleet this year' approved.¹

The account from the Navy Office touching the value of stores supplied to the French fleet¹ approved.

The Officers of the Navy directed to draw up a new draught for a victualling contract.

A proposition from the Navy Office approved 'touching the supplying the galley in the Straits with soldiers'; they are to be supplied from Tangier.¹

Many petitions being presented and read—some directed to his Majesty, others to my Lords—desiring special order for present payment of tickets² and bills; It was RESOLVED, that upon no consideration the course of payment in the navy should be broken, but that Mr. Pepys, as heretofore, do continue to give one general answer upon every such petition . . . by referring them to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy to see them paid in course, as they should be enabled thereto by moneys applicable to the respective uses.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1023.

² Tickets for seamen's wages; on this system, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. i. p. 142.

Upon debate touching the pretence used by some watermen to their being excused for pressing by virtue of their coats, and the Rulers of Watermen's Hall attending; It was RESOLVED, that no coats should be a protection without special order, nor any other protection good but their appearing to stand in particular relation to some of his Majesty's public offices of the navy, ordnance, custom-house, green-cloth, or others, whereof a list is to be prepared by the said Rulers.

Dr. Williams to bring a particular account of spirits supplied by him for the use of the fleet.

JANUARY 5, 1673[-4]

[*Present*: The King; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry.¹]

Sir John Narbrough complaining that pressed men are daily rescued by force and arms by seamen walking up and down the town for that purpose, Mr. Pepys was directed forthwith to go and speak with the Navy Officers and report to the King their advice towards the stopping of this mutiny by seizing and securing some of the mutineers.

Captain Hamilton to be paid the arrears of his wages.

The case of Mr. Tite the merchant and others against Captain Hudson, commander of the Dover dogger, was by mutual consent referred to two persons to be by them respectively chosen; and Mr. Pepys to be the umpire.²

Allen, the chamber-keeper of the Robes, to be reimbursed his expenses for fire and candle, etc., and have £4 given him by Mr. Pepys as a gratuity for his care and trouble for my Lords meeting there, their Lordships now removing unto Derby House.³

¹ Henry Coventry was a principal secretary of state.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1034.

³ Derby House had just been furnished as an office for the admiralty commission (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 957). It had been similarly used during the Interregnum, from January 1655. The commission had lately been meeting at the Robes Chamber at Whitehall.

JANUARY 10, 1673[-4]

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Mr. Pepys to report the list of the merchant fleet in the Downs¹ to his Majesty to-morrow at the Committee of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Pepys tendered to their Lordships the measures he had prepared for his drawing up a state of the affairs of the Admiralty and Navy as they now stand, under the several circumstances necessary for his Majesty and their Lordships to be informed in in relation to the provision to be made against the next summer's service, which measures were approved of and he directed to proceed in the drawing up the same.

RESOLVED, from henceforward to meet at Derby House, and that upon the usual days,² but early in the morning in regard of the Parliament's sitting.

RESOLVED, that a caution be given to whoever shall go forth General of the Fleet henceforward to prevent the admitting, as it hath lately with inconvenience been found, that particular commanders do take vessels along with them as their own to act as privateers.

Captain Harris's loss of a vessel under his convoy to be examined.

My Lord Treasurer to be moved about credits at Cadiz for the supply of Captain Rooth's fleet going thither.

The Officers of the Navy moved, that they having assigned a proportion of victuals to be provided at Livorne, Sir Thomas Clutterbuck³ may be supplied immediately from the King with a proportionable sum

¹ See 3rd Jan.

² The public meetings of the commission had been fixed in July, 1673, for Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 8 in the morning (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 58). The early hour seems to have been abandoned and then resumed (see below under 2nd Feb.).

³ Sir Thomas Clutterbuck had been consul at Leghorn. On 31st December, 1674, he became victualling contractor for the Mediterranean (see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 165 and ii. 236, note 5).

of money, as the general victuallers of the navy are, which was agreed to, the Officers of the Navy first providing a stated contract to be settled between the King and Sir Thomas Clutterbuck in reference to that affair, for preventing future disputes and interfering with other victuallers.

Sir Jeremy Smyth¹ informs my Lords that on Thursday last about 100 seamen in a body did in a mutinous manner march with a black flag before them through the City of London as far as Guildhall, assaulting all prest-masters and rescuing of pressed men; RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys do speedily speak with my Lord Mayor about it, to desire him to examine this and do what is necessary to prevent any more such like mutinies and disorders.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 1673[-4]

[At my Lord Arlington's. *Present* : The King; Prince Rupert; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Keeper²; Lord Treasurer³; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Arlington; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty and their Lordships by order, presented them with an account drawn from the account lately sent from Captain Rooth of the number of merchants' ships going forth under his convoy and the numbers of men belonging to them,⁴ as also Captain Rooth's letter of advice from Lisbon and Oporto touching the enemy's being 24 men-of-war strong there. As also a particular of the force now going out with Captain Rooth, which upon debate was judged sufficient for the security of our merchant fleet. It was also considered whether it would be expedient to let this merchant fleet go, in reference to the number of men that would be taken for the next year's service by it. Upon which it being considered that there hath not in any one year of war been so few seamen absent from the King's service as 3300 men, the number now going forth, and that the

¹ Comptroller of the victuallers' accounts. MS. 'Sir Jeremias Smith.'

² Shaftesbury had been dismissed from the lord chancellorship, 9th Nov., 1673, and Sir Heneage Finch had been appointed lord keeper of the great seal.

³ Sir Thomas Osborne, Viscount Latimer, afterwards Earl of Danby (1674).

⁴ See 3rd Jan.

very last year there came in much more than that number after the work of summer was over.¹ To which being added the importance of the fleet's going forth, in reference to the poor workmen of England and the keeping up use of the English manufacture abroad, as also to the King in the value of his customs at this necessitous time for money, and the honour of his service that trade should not be stopped, and moreover that no merchant hath yet complained or advised that the ships should not go, but on the contrary have expressed their trouble whenever the stopping of them hath been mentioned or suspected, besides that no merchant is compelled either to send forth his ships or not ; It was RESOLVED and Mr. Pepys commanded to send away this night to Rooth his Majesty's orders for his pursuing his former instructions with the first wind, notwithstanding what was writ to him last night to the contrary,² and that in his going he take care to keep his force and fleet as close together as may be.

FEBRUARY 2, 1673[-4]

[*Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Keeper ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

Colonel Slingsby's petition read, touching his being removed from his storekeepership at Portsmouth.

The wages of the gunner of the Anne 'who was lately hanged' to be given to his widow 'notwithstanding the forfeiture.'

A year's pay granted to the wife of Lieutenant Hodder of the Portland in the West Indies 'for her present support.'

Remission to some men of the Anne's company of the sentence of loss of wages.

Sir John Godolphin allowed his disbursements in impresting of men.

The impresting of men for supply of the King's ships not to be stopped, notwithstanding the inquiries on foot in Parliament touching that matter.

AGREED, that from henceforward their Lordships do meet at 8 of the clock in the morning, in regard of the Parliament's sitting forenoon and afternoon.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1037.

² See *ib.*, No. 1052.

Captain Tyrwhitt to have his wages speedily paid, he having left his command only upon the score of religion.¹

The Officers of the Navy to make out a bill for the payment of the present Clerks of the Acts² their salaries at £350 each from the time they have acted therein by the King's warrant.

The Duke's watermen to be allowed for their late attendance on him at sea and to Dover.

The pensions of £100 each to the two Vandevells,³ painters, to be signified to one of the Secretaries of State, in order to a privy seal to establish the same.

Upon Mr. Pepys's offering to his Majesty and my Lords two orders for payment of money in the navy, signified by a Master of Request; RESOLVED, that no such warranty be admitted for the payment of money, or other than from the King immediately to my Lords of the Admiralty.

Captain Carverth to be allowed for his loss of clothes in the Henrietta yacht in proportion to his pay as lieutenant of the St. Michael.

William Burd not to be allowed pay as midshipman extraordinary unless he bring particular warrant for it from his Highness Prince Rupert.

ORDERED, that the charge of house-rent already past and borne by those Officers of the Navy who were lately burnt out of the Navy Office be paid by his Majesty, and the future rent of all of them residing in London and not otherwise provided for be paid by his Majesty, not exceeding £80 per annum each, until other provision of housing be made for them.

FEBRUARY 14, 1673[-4]

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.

The business of Colonel Slingsby⁴ to be referred for examination to the Officers of the Navy.

¹ Captain Tyrwhitt, commander of the *Adventure*, had commanded the Western squadron until August, 1673. His resignation was no doubt due to the operation of the Test Act (see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 131).

² In 1673 Pepys had been succeeded as clerk of the acts by his brother John Pepys and his clerk Thomas Hayter, acting jointly.

³ On the two Van de Veldes see *D. N. B.*, lviii. 103.

⁴ See 2nd Feb.

ORDERED, upon application of many widows for payment of his Majesty's bounty to them,¹ that the Officers of the Navy do report to their Lordships the value of the general debt to widows, in order to the procuring of money for their satisfaction.

Mr. Pepys is directed to know the King's pleasure when another convoy is likely to be sent to Tangier, in order to the sending a further supply of provisions thither.

The business of the Rye vessel referred to the next meeting.

The vessels hired at Chester for transporting soldiers at Chester, and the like in the Downs for others to go to Dieppe, are to be presently discharged.

The petition from Ipswich about buoying out their river ordered to be referred to Trinity House.

FEBRUARY 18, 1673[-4]

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde.]

The Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy attending, on my Lords coming to make up a quorum nothing was done but the Officers of the Navy discoursing touching the reduction of the late declaration for victuals, which by the peace now concluded² ought to be lessened; which was done, Sir D. Gauden³ also present, by running through the several victualling ports and concluding upon the particular abatements to be made therein respectively.

FEBRUARY 20, [1673-4]

[*Present*: Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain. Officers of the Navy attending.]

The lieutenant of the Bristol, who hath left his employment to avoid censure for his neglect therein lately

¹ On the system of gratuities to widows and orphans, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 134.

² Peace with the Dutch had already been concluded and was awaiting ratification (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 1287).

³ Sir Denis Gauden was still one of the victuallers of the navy under the new contract of November, 1673 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 164).

complained of by the Officers of the Navy, is ordered to have his pay stopped.

Mr. Pepys was directed to write to Colonel Piper, Governor of Plymouth,¹ (in case Sir Richard Munden in the Assistance be gone out from thence) for an account of the particulars of the late mistake happening between him and a small French man-of-war, by which several guns were exchanged between them and some men killed.

Sir Arthur Gore's case to be referred to 'the King's Counsel in the Court of Admiralty.'

Mr. Pepys acquainting their Lordships that the Officers of the Navy (now present) had made their report upon the late propositions made by Mr. Speaker² for improving the present methods of the navy in the payment of bills in course, their Lordships resolved that the consideration of their said report be respited until Mr. Speaker could be present.

Upon a letter read from the agent for the sick and wounded in Deal to Mr. Evelyn, one of the Commissioners for that affair,³ my Lord Treasurer informed their Lordships that £2000 had been for some time together ordered and lain ready, as it now doth, for the use of that Commission. It was RESOLVED, that Sir H. Osborne, the treasurer for that service, be by letter put in mind of and directed forthwith to call for the same.

Upon discourse with the Officers of the Navy touching Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's desire of having an agreement entered into writing between his Majesty and himself about his victualling of all his Majesty's ships within the Mediterranean, and settling a method for his payments for the same⁴; It was RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy should with all convenient speed provide a draught of such a contract to be presented to their Lordships for their approval or correction, and that the said Officers do call upon Sir D. Gauden for his advice and information therein.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1282.

² See 3rd Jan.

³ On the commission for sick and wounded, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 133. There had been much trouble at Deal (*ib.*, p. 136), and money had been promised since Sept., 1673 (*Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 294 and 313).

⁴ See 10th Jan.

Sir Jeremy Smyth informing their Lordships by way of complaint that, notwithstanding his frequent demands, and letters to Sir Thomas Littleton and the rest of the late contractors ¹ on that behalf, no part of their accounts were yet brought into the Navy Board for examination, which by contract they ought long since to have done, and would also have been their interest to have hastened, had his Majesty (as they do still in their daily discourses publicly affirm) been their debtor; ORDERED, that they be pressed to bringing in of their accounts by a letter to be expressly wrote to them on that account.

Sir Thomas Chicheley, Master of the Ordnance, coming to their Lordships to desire an examination to be had of the occasion of the late miscarriage of one vessel among others coming from Rye, loaden with guns and shot for his Majesty's use, under the convoy of the Constant Warwick and Young Spragge, wherein the Master of the Ordnance asserts his being informed that the losing of the said vessel did arise from the failure of the commanders of his Majesty's said ships in the performing their duties, and the loss occasioned thereby by contract to fall upon his Majesty and not the master or owners of the said vessel; It was mutually agreed to, by their Lordships on behalf of his Majesty and the master of the vessel on behalf of himself and owners, that the examination of matter of fact touching the loss of the said vessel and the ground thereof be referred to the Trinity House, to be from them reported to their Lordships.

Upon a petition from Mr. Cooper on behalf of the sick and wounded seamen in the hospitals read; It was RESOLVED, that the debate of that matter be adjourned till the next meeting, and that Mr. Wiseman, the King's Serjeant-Chirurgion, be summoned to attend their Lordships at the same time, in order to their receiving from him an account of his disposal of the £300 to him formerly supplied by my Lord Treasurer by verbal directions signified to his Lordship by the same Mr. Wiseman from the King on that behalf.

¹ Sir Thomas Littleton and others had been contractors for victualling under a contract of 1672, which had expired in Nov. 1673 (see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 155, 164).

FEBRUARY 23, 1673[-4]

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde.]

No more coming to make up a quorum, their Lordships above-mentioned rose without doing anything.

FEBRUARY 25, 1673[-4]

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal.]

This day being the morrow after the prorogation of the Parliament, no more of my Lords came, and so no business was entered upon but respited until the next meeting.

FEBRUARY 28, 1673[-4]

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Keeper ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Arlington ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker. Officers of the Navy attending.]

A proposition for the reduction of the present victualing declaration for 35,000 men's victuals for 8 months to 8200 by reason of the determination of war¹ being read, the same was approved of, and Mr. Pepys directed to cause a memorial thereof to be laid before his Majesty in Council for its confirmation there.

A letter being read from the late victuallers of the navy² in answer to one from their Lordships taking notice of their withholding still from the present victuallers some of the houses and conveniencies belonging to his Majesty which his service had present occasions for, as also of their not yet having brought in their victualling accounts to the Officers of the Navy for examination ; It was RESOLVED, as to the latter, that though they cannot bring in the whole they ought and should be pressed to bring in forthwith part of their accounts, and the remainder as fast as from time to time they can prepare the same, and that as to the former, the contents of their answer be communicated to the present

¹ Peace was this day proclaimed, and hostile acts were to cease within twelve days (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 1320).

² See 20th Feb.

victuallers in order to their giving their Lordships their further information touching that matter. The Officers of the Navy were directed to state forthwith to their Lordships, for the more especial satisfaction of my Lord Treasurer, the present debt at this day upon the head of wages to seamen and to the present victuallers, the former whereof the Lord Brouncker,¹ particularly charged therewith, undertook to dispatch against Monday next.

The letter of the Officers of the Navy of the 27th instant was read, and thereupon ORDERED, that their advice therein touching the accommodating between his Majesty, Sir D. Gauden on behalf of himself and partners, and Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, the business of the victualing his ships in the Mediterranean, should be followed, and that to that purpose they should forthwith prepare and present to their Lordships pursuant thereto a draught of a contract fit to be entered into between his Majesty and the rest of the said parties.

Upon discourse touching the bringing of the galley from Leghorn to Tangier; It was RESOLVED, that when the said galley shall be brought thither a frigate of less charge than the Maryrose, now lately sent away for that service, will with the said galley be sufficient to answer all the occasions thereof.

The launching of the new yacht at Chatham to be respited till further order.

His Majesty, upon discourse touching the conveniency or inconveniency of embarking at Chester all the companies that are to be transported to Ireland, committed it to the Duke of Monmouth to withhold the issuing of their orders for their march to Chester (unless they were already issued, as the Duke seemed to believe they were) until his Majesty's further pleasure were known therein.

My Lord Treasurer desires from the Navy Board a general state of all the funds for money remaining at this day in their hands undisposed of, which the Lord Brouncker¹ in particular undertook to see dispatched.

The Fairfax to be broken up.

The method proposed of satisfying Mr. Southwell of Kinsale for victuals issued to the Norwich, approved.

¹ Comptroller of the treasurer's accounts.

RESOLVED, that the soldiers lately sent to the French Ruby to lie on board her as a guard at Sheerness be victualled on board the said ship, and so continued until houses be provided for their entertainment on shore.

The number of men and guns proposed for the Arms of Terver,¹ prize, approved.

The like approval given to the Navy Officers' advice of having a purser and husband established upon each galley² when furnished, the former to be accountable for the receipts and issues of victuals, the latter of all other stores.

RESOLVED, that it be referred to the Office of the Navy to examine the ground of Mr. Skinner of Leghorn his drawing a bill of exchange of £800 upon Sir John Duteil for his Majesty's service, and that in the mean time their acceptance of the said bill be forborne.

The like reference was made to the Officers of the Navy for examining and reporting the state and truth of Hollister, master of a vessel, his complaint of ill usage by him received in the river of Thames from Captain Orchard of the Hound sloop.

A complaint being exhibited by Sir Robert Holmes against Captain Clements for his neglect of duty in the looking after the St. Peter galliot under his convoy loaden with wines for his Majesty, etc., from Rouen, by which the said galliot was taken ; Mr. Pepys was directed to see that the same be well examined so soon as Clements shall be returned from Dieppe, whither he is now bound with soldiers from Rye.

Upon particular mention made by the Officers of the Navy touching the disquiet given them and public dishonour occasioned to his Majesty's service from daily clamour of widows and orphans arising from the non-payment of his Majesty's bounty to them ; It was referred by his Majesty to my Lord Treasurer to make some speedy provision for their satisfaction, towards which his Lordship offered his doing what he can by allotting a weekly sum to be paid for that use.

¹ MS. 'Tyrveir.'

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1534.

Upon Sir Jeremy Smyth's moving that for the retrenching the charge his Majesty is now at of £300 a year to Mr. Lewis for inspecting the Ticket Office, Commissioner Haddock, who stands uncharged with any particular branch of the business of the Navy, may be appointed to do that work ; his Majesty approved thereof, but that the joint opinion of the Board should be demanded and given therein.

MARCH 7, 1673[-4]

[At the Council Chamber. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Keeper ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Arlington ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker. Officers of the Navy attending.]

The report from the Trinity House being read,¹ touching the loss of a vessel lately coming from Rye, loaden with guns and shot for the King, under the convoy of the Constant Warwick and Young Spragge, a copy of it was ordered to be sent to the Master of the Ordnance, and an observation of the whole made to his Majesty and committed to Mr. Pepys to enter for future use touching this one ill effect of his Majesty's bounty granted this war to the commanders and companies of his ships for their encouragement to take the enemy's capers² instead of merchantmen by giving them the entire benefit arising from any caper they shall so take,—That, out of their desire to take capers for their own benefit in preference to everything else, they apply themselves wholly to the taking of the capers to the neglecting of the convoys under their charge and exposing them to be taken by the enemy, as it plainly appeared to have been in the case of this vessel. *

The Commissioners for Sick and Wounded being called in, It was RESOLVED, that for the speedy retrenching the charge arising from their Commission the making up their accounts should be hastened, so as their whole action determine by May Day next. That they should take no more sick men into their care, and that to that end commanders should be forbid to send any on shore, but

¹ See 20th Feb.

² Privateers.

to provide for them on board as hath been always practised in time of peace. That those now in the hand of the said Commissioners who cannot be cured within the said time be put into hospitals. They press for money to discharge their debt, representing it by discourse to arise to £25,000, which my Lord Treasurer took upon him to make the best provision he could for, together with the other branches of the present navy debt.

AGREED, that the £3000 which by the letter of my Lord Treasurer's warrant is made payable to Sir John Duteil¹ for the use of the galleys in the Straits, be instead thereof made payable to Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, to be issued by him by order from the Officers of the Navy.

The Master of the Ordnance to be advertised of what the Officers of the Navy (as an instance of Sir John Duteil's imperfect knowledge in the business of galleys) do among other things inform their Lordships, touching his having changed the guns sent hence for the use of the galleys, they proving when they came there of dimensions and weights unfit for galleys' use, though provided by his own advice upon a journey at the King's charge made by him into Italy on purpose for the bringing over the just dimensions of those and all the other furniture belonging to galleys, wherein he is said to have failed in the sizes of the cordage.

A paper read containing several heads wherein Sir Thomas Clutterbuck² desired satisfaction in order to his return to Italy, which being severally discoursed were found all within the care of the Officers of the Navy, and was thereupon committed to them to give him answer in.

The Officers of the Navy were directed to confer with Mr. Sheeres³ about the provision that may be made at Tangier for the receiving and safe keeping of the galleys when they shall be brought thither.

AGREED, that the bill of exchange⁴ of about £900, said to be drawn by Mr. Skinner of Leghorn upon Sir John Duteil¹ for so much by his order supplied there

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1357. On Sir John Baptiste Duteil see notes to Nos. 1023 and 1166.

² See note on p. 4 above.

³ See note on p. 300 below.

⁴ See 28th Feb.

by Mr. Skinner for the use of the galley, be satisfied out of the above-mentioned £3000, if upon examination to be thereof made by the Officers of the Navy the value of the said bill be found to have been truly furnished by Skinner and applied by Sir John Duteil or his order to the use of his Majesty.

The request of the Adventurers to Hudson's Bay for their having the Francis frigate lent them by the King in lieu of the Messenger is granted, and Mr. Pepys ordered to prepare a warrant to the Officers of the Navy accordingly.

Consideration being had of the great and useless charge it will be to his Majesty to keep in his hands all the small vessels employed in the late war; It was ORDERED, that the Officers of the Navy should forthwith consider the whole, and report to my Lords what number thereof will on any consideration be advisable for his Majesty to part with, to the end the same may by a privy seal to be issued for that purpose be converted into money by putting them to a public sale by the candle¹ according to the ancient practice of the navy, excepting out of the number the Dover dogger, which is to be lent to the Guinea Company.

Upon the resolution last mentioned, and the reading of several petitions to his Majesty and my Lords by persons pretending to some reward from his Majesty on past accounts of service or otherwise, and desiring satisfaction for the same by his Majesty granting them some of the vessels above-mentioned now become useless, his Majesty did declare that he would not part with any of the said vessels otherwise than by sale as above; and thereupon accordingly ORDERED by his Majesty and my Lords, that Mr. Pepys do from time to time give it as a general and standing answer to these and all other petitions which may hereafter be addressed either to his Majesty or their Lordships on the like behalf, that his Majesty will not on any consideration part with any of the said vessels by way of gift, or otherwise than by sale for his own benefit.

Lady Harman to be granted a pension of £500 a year, as formerly granted to Lady Lawson, in consideration of 'the

¹ Cf. *Diary*, 3rd Sept., 1662.

straitness of her condition wherein she and her family are left,' and 'the long and good services' of Sir John Harman.¹

A suit of the silk colours ordered to be provided for the two new yachts, the *Henrietta* and *Katherine*, now upon finishing² at Chatham and Woolwich.

Refer to the Officers of the Navy the considering some proposition by which some of the poor seamen who by the loss of their limbs in the King's service are unable to provide for themselves in merchants' ships, may in charity with least burden to his Majesty be entertained in time of peace on board those of his Majesty's ships which shall be abroad, according to the respective rates of the said ships.

Mr. Standley, formerly belonging to Sir Edward Spragge, petitioning for an order to the Office of the Navy for his being paid as a midshipman, in which quality he alleges he has for several years past been paid, It was rejected, in consideration as well that the number of midshipmen allowed to the ship whereon he was borne was already completed, as that being at the same time muster-master of a division and receiving salary for it, he was incapable of performing, and by consequence of earning, the wages of both.

A petition of one Bridges being read, desiring a dispensation with the Act of Navigation in the letting a ship of his go forth contrary thereto, It was denied, in consideration that the war is now determined.

Captain Harris, now of the *Success*, petitioning for allowance for his wound, is referred to the rules of the establishment lately made in that case³ and not to expect any other provision for him than he is thereby entitled to.

The Lord Treasurer acquainting his Majesty and my Lords with the great growing charge now lying upon his Majesty in the navy, and particularly that of the ships remaining in pay more than what the war being now over the service will call for, and shewing the absolute necessity on his Majesty's behalf of having the said growing charge presently cut off, which he declared he

¹ See *D. N. B.*, xxiv. 410.

² The *Katherine* was built at Chatham in 1674; the *Henrietta* was not completed at Woolwich until 1679.

³ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 148-9.

doubts that his Majesty would nowise be able to do with ready money further than the paying them to Michaelmas 1672, he propounded that the ships now in, and the rest as they should come in, might be discharged by paying them with ready money to Michaelmas aforesaid, with promise of the remainder to be paid at the Treasurer of the Navy's office by one ship a week (by a course to be propounded by the Officers of the Navy and established on that behalf) without tickets to be issued to the men for their said arrear, for preventing the loss the poor men and their families would be exposed to by the selling them at under value,¹ Wherein desiring the opinion of the Officers of the Navy touching what is capable of being done therein with least dissatisfaction to the seamen. Upon which Sir Thomas Allin,² in behalf of the navy, in answer observed that the ready money, being limited to Michaelmas 1672, will fall to the share but of a very inconsiderable part of the seamen of the fleet. To which my Lord Brouncker³ adding, that if nevertheless the ready money could not be made to reach further, and that the men must be discharged without, it would be a double grievance to them not to have their tickets, as being wholly unable to support themselves and families without the help of their tickets though they do sell them to loss, the reason of which being presently yielded to, and the Lord Brouncker propounding it to consideration whether for the rendering of tickets more acceptable to seamen and of better credit to them it might not be worth the additional charge to his Majesty of declaring that he would allow interest after the rate of 6 per cent. for the time that each ticket shall remain unpaid, and that for the further encouragement of persons to trust the poor seaman upon his ticket some method may be found of taking away the trouble arising at this day from the difficulties attending letters of attorney by making tickets transferable by an endorsement, as bills of exchange are, the whole was referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider and

¹ On the abuses of the ticket system see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 142.

² Comptroller of the navy.

³ Comptroller of the treasurer's accounts.

report to their Lordships with all speed their opinion and advice thereon, so as that his Majesty's growing charge in the wages of seamen may be retrenched, without ready money for the arrears since Michaelmas 1672, with the least delay to his Majesty and least dissatisfaction to the seamen.

The King declared his pleasure that the Deptford ketch, being now, among others, to be called in, should be fitted for the sea, his Majesty intending to send her to Marseilles¹ for wine for his own use.

A petition from the town of Dunwich² praying payment of the arrears due to them on the account of sick and wounded seamen ORDERED to be referred to the proper Commissioners to examine and do right in.

The Navy Officers' letter of the 5th inst. read touching the clamours of Chatham Yard for money. It was committed to Mr. Speaker to solicit my Lord Treasurer for money for payment of that yard with the rest.

MARCH 9, 1673[-4]

[*Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

The case of Captain Joy, lately put out of his command of the Buck dogger upon complaint of his having suffered a caper to take a small vessel out of the river of Thames within his view without any endeavour to save or rescue her, is referred to the Trinity House to examine.

ORDERED (at the instance of his Highness³), that the masters of the great ships now discharged out of the pay they were for their encouragement lately ordered to be borne in (during war) while their ships are in harbour, should be forthwith paid the arrears due to them at the time of this their discharge.

Mr. Pepys was directed to move his Majesty for his orders for vessels to carry the recruits that will be necessary to send to Tangier.

Lord of Ossory's⁴ letter being read in behalf of Captain Carverth for the present payment of moneys

¹ MS. 'Meicellis.'

² MS. 'Dolwich'; *margin*, 'Donlwich.'

³ Prince Rupert.

⁴ See *D. N. B.*, viii. 81.

due to him ; RESOLVED, that they could not do more in his favour than refer him to his course in payment.

A message being brought from the King requiring Mr. Pepys to attend him forthwith, his Majesty was accordingly attended by him, who commanded him immediately to provide a vessel or two to go down the River to lie in the Hope for the stopping and taking out of any ship going forth what men shall be found going abroad into foreign service without his Majesty's leave, great numbers of which his Majesty is informed are now privately enlisting¹ to be transported on that account. Mr. Pepys returned and acquainting their Lordships therewith, they directed him to prepare warrants accordingly for his Majesty to sign (and not themselves) pursuant to his pleasure declared therein.

His Majesty's order to my Lords, signified in writing by Mr. Secretary Coventry, for the delivering to the Lord Widdrington what shall be saved by the Dove dogger lately cast away upon the coast of Northumberland near Boomer² ; ORDERED, that their direction be issued accordingly.

AGREED also, that the arrears of pay due to his Highness Prince Rupert as Vice-Admiral of England, be paid out of the first money applicable thereto.

Mr. Cooper, his Majesty's officer for the sick and wounded seamen at the hospitals, being called in, informs their Lordships that £200 will discharge as many poor men under his care (that is to say, out of 12*d.* per diem charge a day to 2*d.*) as will save £12 10*s.* a day. Where-with my Lord Treasurer is speedily to be acquainted by Mr. Pepys.

The Navy Board's report upon Mr. Speaker's proposition touching the method of payment in course to be respited to Mr. Speaker's being present.

MARCH 11, 1673[-4]

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Speaker.]

RESOLVED, to respite the ordering the payment off of

¹ MS. 'in Listing.'

² Possibly Bamborough. Widdrington Castle is on the coast of Northumberland, but further south.

the ships till Saturday, when his Majesty and my Lord Treasurer will be present.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy of the 10th instant being read, containing at large the advice upon the business of discharging the fleet, whether by money or ticket, is referred to a second reading (his Majesty and my Lord Treasurer present) on Saturday next.

Another letter from them was also read, touching money necessary for the enabling them to provide vessels at Chester for transporting the soldiers bound for Ireland. This Mr. Speaker undertook the taking care of with my Lord Treasurer.

Mr. Speaker being now present, the Navy Officers' report¹ some time since sent to my Lords was read, touching the improving the present method of the Navy Office for payment in course, and put into the hands of the Speaker for his perusal and delivering to my Lords his opinion thereon at their next meeting.

MARCH 14, 1673[-4].

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker. Officers of the Navy attending.]

The late letter of the Officers of the Navy touching the method of discharging the fleet² being read, and as well the reasons thereof debated as my Lord Treasurer signifying his being in a capacity of complying with the advice of the said Officers and upon the measures by them set down in their letter of paying the men at present serving on board his Majesty's ships now to be discharged entirely off with money, the whole was agreed to be put in execution, and the Officers of the Navy directed to cause the making up of the ships' books to be hastened, which they undertake to have in readiness as fast as money can be ready for the paying them off.

My Lord Treasurer moves, and his Majesty and my Lords agree, that as well for the preventing any loss that may arise from the victuallers making any provision of victuals beyond what the service may expend, by reason

¹ See 3rd January.

² See 7th March.

of the hopes given of our being in condition of discharging the ships faster than was foreseen when the last retrenchment of the present year's declaration was largely made to 8200 men, as for the saving so much as may thereby be spared of the money or funds which would otherwise by contract be to be parted with to Sir D. Gauden and partners, that 5000 men's victuals for 8 months and no more be at present demanded by the Officers of the Navy, the remaining 3200 men's victuals being to be hereafter called for as the King's service will in a little time more fully appear to require.

My Lord Treasurer to have a list prepared for him by Mr. Pepys of the places where the several ships are to be laid up and paid off, moved by my Lord Treasurer and agreed to that the men which may now be spared and are therefore to be presently¹ discharged out of the yard be put out of pay forthwith, with promise of payment of the wages now in arrear to them in the same manner and proportions as the men remaining in the yard shall be, the Officers of the Navy acquainting my Lord that they had already signified this their purpose to some of the yards, and that they find the workmen, and more particularly the shipwrights, not much dissatisfied therewith, being contented to be at liberty to work elsewhere.

The King declares his purpose of good husbandry in all kinds, and therefore enjoins the Officers of the Navy to think and make use of all ways and means and with all speed of bringing the charge of the navy to or within £200,000 per annum, the proportion heretofore designed,² though never yet obtained, of reducing the charge of the navy to in time of peace.

Sir John Coryton's³ petition being read, desiring the erecting of the office of a Commissioner of the Navy at Plymouth, and himself to be the man; RESOLVED, that whatever it be in war no such officer is needful in peace, and that this be given as the answer to his petition.

Ships in the Straits to show themselves from time to time at Argeir.

¹ Immediately.

² This is a reversion to Sir William Coventry's scheme, adopted in 1669; see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 104-5.

³ MS. 'Corriden.'

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck pressing for assignment for money in proportion to the whole quantity of provisions first declared for at Leghorn; ORDERED, that the Officers of the Navy do satisfy themselves in the truth of what Sir T. C. alleged touching his having already actually made provision for the whole quantity, which Sir Jeremy Smyth acknowledges not yet to have been made appear to him.

Mr. Speaker reporting his full concurrence with the advice of the Navy Officers touching his last proposition about the course of payment in the navy,¹ the whole was read, debated, confirmed, and ORDERED to be put in practice.

The King directs that orders may be issued to the Officers of the Navy for their supplying his Majesty's gardener, Mr. Rose, with 500 yards of old canvas and a barrel of tar for the use of his gardens and trees.

ORDERED, that the Officers of the Navy do make out a bill to my Lord Mulgrave² for the $\frac{1}{2}$ pay given in harbour in time of war to the commanders of 1st and 2nd-rate ships, he³ designing to give it to Captain Dickenson who served under him.

Mr. Pepys desiring directions how to guide himself in his drawing up of instructions to commanders in reference to the King of France's ships striking the flag, which during the war and their union with us therein against the Dutch hath been remitted; ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys should at his Majesty's next presence at this Board shew them the form of the instructions heretofore given in that case, upon which he would signify his further pleasure.

ORDERED, that Mr. Nevitt, purser of the Norwich, have no further sum imprested to him than what will serve to reimburse my Lord Lieutenant of Ireland what he hath supplied him with for the support of his family there.

Sir John Pettus's⁴ request granted of having a notification put into the *Gazette* of the provision lately made at Dunwich⁵ for the watering of ships there, but without setting or intimating any rate to be expected for

¹ See 11th March.

² See *D. N. B.*, lii. 13.

³ MS. 'so.'

⁴ MS. 'Pettice.'

⁵ MS. 'Dulwich.' Sir John Pettus was M.P. for Dunwich; see *D. N. B.*, xlv. 111.

the same, it being done at the King's charge and intended for the benefit of the public.

Babbage's petition to his Majesty for a cast ship rejected, upon the resolution lately taken therein.¹

Mr. Pepys was ordered to give my Lord Arlington a memorial of what his Majesty lately declared his pleasure in to my Lords for the settling a pension or annuity of £500 a year upon my Lady Harman² for her life, payable out of the navy, in order to his Lordship's warranting Mr. Attorney-General to prepare a bill for a great seal to be passed therefor.

AGREED, the war being now over, that the Peace prize may now be delivered to Colonel Russell for the repair of Newhaven, according to the privy seal some time since granted on that behalf.

The business of Mr. Crow, master of the hired ketch the George, surprised by a caper while he was on shore, is referred back to the Officers of the Navy, for the examining more strictly the truth of the single point of his being on shore by order.

The petition of Mr. Cleggett, purser of the York, being read, praying his being put down in course for payment of the balance of his account, as other disbursements are, and the Officers of the Navy declaring it reasonable, is granted.

Mr. Hayther, minister of the ordinary at Portsmouth, complaining of his being denied a servant to be borne on the hulk, is granted to have whatever the practice of the navy hath heretofore allowed, and no more.

Boatswain Shepherd of the St. Andrew, being old and by wounds disabled from further service, is allowed upon certificates conformable to the rules of the establishment in that case, to have the pension of a superannuated officer.

A petition being read against Mr. Billopp, one of the clerks of the navy, complaining of his denying right and praying the liberty of the law; ORDERED, that unless he gave my Lords a satisfactory account in 10 days the law shall be open against him.

Three soldiers going to Ireland with the rest of the

¹ See 7th March.

² On Sir John Harman's distinguished career at sea, see *D. N. B.*, xxiv. 410. He died 11th Oct., 1673.

forces transporting thither are ORDERED to have their tickets presently paid them.

MARCH 16, 1673[-4]

[*Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck¹ informing their Lordships that the Master of the Ordnance² hath given him no satisfaction in the business of the letter that my Lord wrote him lately concerning Sir T. C.; It was RESOLVED, that Sir Thomas Chicheley should be spoke to in it, and the business brought to an issue touching the authority of the Lord Admiral's issuing warrants unto the Master of the Ordnance.

A draught of a letter being read for directing the Officers of the Navy in the paying off of the fleet and yards, wherein, among other things, they were bid to prefer those ships in course of payment that had least due to them, As also to pay no present money but to the seamen actually appearing at the pay, the remainder being to be paid at the Treasury Office weekly, and to discharge the workmen of the yard that may now be spared with assurance of their being paid quarterly their arrears as the men remaining in the yard are paid, with liberty of being borne on the books in the mean time to protect them from arrests; the Lords did agree the respiting of the assigning³ those parts of the said letter till they had been shewed and approved in Council, but that the residue of the letter directing in general the payment off of the ships should be drawn out by itself and speedily sent away, which was done.

The Lord Treasurer presents their Lordships with a proposition of Mr. Baylie's⁴ of Bristol for building two ships there, to be paid one moiety of the price thereof in timber out of the King's Forest of Dean; which was ORDERED to be referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider and report their opinions.

The Lords refer back to the Officers of the Navy once more the case of Pennington and Jerman's loss of their

¹ Victualler in the Mediterranean.

² Sir Thomas Chicheley.

³ *I.e.*, signing.

⁴ MS. 'Bayliffs.'

vessels, to satisfy themselves more particularly in the true ground of their parting with their convoys.

Lord Ossory's letter read, desiring payment to be made to one Lee, one of the muster-masters of the last year's fleet; which was denied till he bring the Officers of the Navy's certificate of his well performing of his duty.

The proposal of one Ward's, touching the abuse in chips¹ in the King's yards, and undertaking to prove considerable particulars therein, and praying the employment of looking after chips, referred to the Officers of the Navy.

ORDERED, that Mr. Wiseman, the King's Chirurgeon, be desired to attend their Lordships the next sitting.

MARCH 18, 1673[-4]

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker.]

Answer brought that Mr. Wiseman² hath for some weeks been, and still continues, unable by sickness to go abroad, and prays excuse for his not attending their Lordships.

Mr. Pepys presenting their Lordships with a draft of a memorial he hath prepared for the Council about the payment off of the ships and yards,² it was approved, and put into the hands of Mr. Speaker to present to the Council Board anon.

Several letters being signed by their Lordships to the Office of the Navy, Commissioners for Widows and Orphans, and an estimate for repairing the Old James.

ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do, with the advice of the Lord Brouncker, provide a good clock for the use of their Lordships here.

RESOLVED, to agree the next sitting upon a day for visiting the Navy Office.

¹ On the abuse of chips, see M. Oppenheim, *The Administration of the Royal Navy, 1509-1660*, p. 285, and Hollond's *Discourses* (Navy Records Society's Publications), p. 96. See also *Catalogue of Pepyſian MSS.*, ii. p. xxxv.

² See 16th March.

MARCH 21, 1673[-4]

[*Present* : Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Arlington ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker. Officers of the Navy attending.]

A vessel to go to the Barbadoes ' to notify the peace ' ; and a pass to be procured from the Prince of Orange for her.

The Lord Arlington brings their Lordships a proposal from Colonel Strode wherein he offers to undertake at his charge the removing of his Majesty's subjects from Surinam¹ to Jamaica or elsewhere in the West Indies, as they shall desire it, His Majesty giving him the prize ship called the Arms of Camphor and two others fitted to sail ; which both their Lordships and the Officers of the Navy thinking very disadvantageous to the King, rejected, leaving it to Colonel Strode to bring in, if he sees fit, some other proposition on that subject that may be acceptable.

The Officers of the Navy are directed forthwith to bring in an estimate of the old provisions in the King's stores fit to be sold, in order to their being put² into the same privy seal with that for the old ships.

Mr. Dunbar's petition to his Majesty for 3 old ships to be given him, read and rejected.

Mr. Lamotte's³ petition for the present payment of the freight due upon the Unity, of London, employed as a victualler, read and referred to payment in course.

Lieutenant Tennant's petition for his Majesty's bounty for his wounds read, and ORDERED to be put into a way of receiving it according to the rules of the establishment.

AGREED, that the men to be reduced out of the ships to be kept abroad from the numbers in time of war to those in time of peace⁴ be discharged with ready money as the rest of the fleet is, and not by ticket.⁵

Mr. Pepys is ordered to attend and confer with my

¹ On the withdrawal of English subjects from Surinam under the treaty with the Dutch, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, ii. p. xvi.

² MS. 'up.'

³ MS. 'La Mote.'

⁴ The three scales for 'peace everywhere,' 'war abroad,' and 'war at home' are given in Pepys's Register of Ships (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 266-95).

⁵ See 7th and 14th March.

Lord Treasurer about allotting of moneys weekly for paying of pilots, widows and orphans, bills of exchange, and answering other the ordinary occasions of the Office, and four or five hundred pound for the discharging of arrears.

Notice being taken by my Lords of what passed yesterday at the Council Board, whereby my Lords of the Council did not think it necessary or fit for them to interpose in their setting rules to the Lords of the Admiralty or the Officers of the Navy for their proceeding in the payment of the ships and yards, in answer to a memorial¹ this day put in to the Council Board to that purpose, nothing of that kind having been heretofore done on the like occasion of paying off of ships, and therefore leaving it to my Lords of the Admiralty to do therein as to them should seem convenient, their Lordships did now, upon consideration of the great growing charge at present upon his Majesty from the excessive numbers of men in pay, both at sea and in the yards, beyond either what his Majesty's service in time of peace doth call for, or the present state of his Majesty's stores would employ, or the condition of his treasure admit of the purchasing of stores for; Their Lordships considering also the moment it was of, both to the honour and justice of his Majesty's service, in this cutting off of growing charges to avoid (if possible) the discharging of any seaman by ticket or any other manner than by ready money, which the Lord Treasurer shewing the present state of the King's treasure convinced my Lords not to be to be done without the utmost endeavours of saving the present issuings of money upon any other occasions; And, lastly, it appearing to my Lords, upon discourse with the Officers of the Navy now present, that in the like cases heretofore of paying off of fleets under a scarcity of money they have always, and were among other things expressly enjoined by instructions sent them from the King and the Lords the Committee for Foreign Affairs in the year 1672, to prefer those ships in payment where the least money would discharge the greatest number of men, and to pay no seaman's wages

¹ See 18th March.

with the ships who was not actually in service on board the ship at the time of its being paid (tickets and letters of attorney being respited to be afterwards paid at the Treasurer of the Navy's office, as their Lordships do now design it with my Lord Treasurer's promise of supplying the Treasurer of the Navy weekly in such proportions as he is able with money for that particular use), As also that the workmen of the yards who shall be discharged without present payment of their arrears may, by the plenty of work which will be to be found in merchants' yards, support themselves with the help of their arrears from the King coming in quarterly, which the Officers of the Navy are to give the said workmen assurance of, and to take care where the condition of any workman shall desire it to see their debts adjusted, and with the consent of the workmen endorsed upon the tickets of such of them as shall be wholly discharged, and that others of them who shall desire it may not be wholly discharged but continued on the clerk of the check's books though out of pay with leave only to work elsewhere, thereby to continue them in such relation to his Majesty's service as may, with the security they will thereby have against any present trouble that may arise to them by their credits, be subject to his Majesty's call so soon as his service shall require their returning to his yards: It was RESOLVED by my Lords, upon all the preceding considerations, and more especially in pursuance of his Majesty's express approval and command, signified by the Lord Treasurer to that purpose, that instructions be forthwith drawn up by Mr. Pepys suitable to their Lordships' present debates on the considerations aforegoing, and having first shewn it to his Majesty and received his particular approval thereof, to present it to their Lordships for their signing.

*Memorandum.*¹ This day in the evening Mr. Pepys attended his Majesty and acquainted him with their Lordships' preceding debate; [he] was pleased to command him to proceed according thereto in the drawing up of instructions to the Officers of the Navy.

Memorandum. That upon Sunday 22nd Mr. Pepys attended his Majesty with the draught he had prepared of

¹ In the margin.

a letter for the Lords to sign to the Officers of the Navy upon yesterday's debates touching the payment off of the fleet and yards, which his Majesty was pleased to approve of, directing Mr. Pepys to signify his pleasure to my Lords of the Admiralty that the same should be by them confirmed.

MARCH 23, 1673[-4]

[*Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde.]

Letters read from Captain Herbert of the Cambridge and Captain Carter of the Crown signifying their return from Scotland; and Captain Wetwang in the Newcastle his taking the East India (outward-bound) ship which by stress of weather and loss of masts and rudder was driven into port there, and his being upon his way home with her.

Mr. Pepys acquainting their Lordships with the King's determination of sending the Cambridge and Crown with the recruits of soldiers intended for Tangier, their Lordships direct orders to be made therein accordingly.

Mr. Pepys shewing their Lordships his draught of instructions to the Officers of the Navy upon their last debates,¹ and acquainting them with his Majesty's approval and directions therein, they ORDERED to be ingrossed for its being signed by them and sent away.

A letter also was now signed to the Officers of the Navy to quicken the payment off of some ships in the River designed to be laid up at Chatham, and to enquire about a vessel to send with a packet to the Barbadoes to give notice of the peace there.

Dancer's request, handed to my Lords by a letter from the Duke of Ormonde, for the having of a ship given him, denied, upon the King's general resolution taken of giving away none.²

His Highness Prince Rupert moved that the Officers of the Navy might be directed to make him out a bill for his pay while he was at sea, at £4 a day, grounded (as

¹ See 21st March.

² See 7th March.

his Highness intimated) upon a clause of his patent as Vice-Admiral of England,¹ which Mr. Pepys was ordered to inform himself particularly in, and accordingly prepare a warrant to the Officers of the Navy.

His Highness moving that Captain Allen, formerly lieutenant of the Sovereign and the Prince, by whom she was preserved after Sir Edward Spragge was killed, might be presently paid his arrears upon the Resolution, now going to be paid off; It was ORDERED, that the rule not being to be broke by which he is not to expect to be paid with the ship, he should be paid out of the first money supplied for payment of tickets.

Upon reading a petition of the widows of the men of the Anne lately sentenced to several punishments by a court-martial,² desiring to be paid their husbands' wages, the forfeiture whereof is forgiven by his Majesty; ORDERED, to be paid out of the first money appointed for payment of tickets.

MARCH 25, 1674

[*Present*: Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker.]

[*No minutes entered.*]

MARCH 29, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker. Officers of the Navy attending.]

The Officers of the Navy opening their wants for money for the current uses of the Office, such as bills of exchange, widows and orphans, etc., Mr. Speaker was desired to solicit my Lord Treasurer therein.

They also informed their Lordships that the £3000 desired for the galleys coming so late as after £127,000,

¹ Prince Rupert's appointment dated from 15th August, 1672.

² The Anne, a 3rd-rate, had been blown up by accident at Sheerness, 2nd December, 1673, and an enquiry by court-martial had followed: see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, ii. p. xxxi.

Sir John Duteil¹ hath acquainted them that Debusty² will not accept of that or any other assignment for his security than that of Sir Stephen Fox's³ undertaking to him to reimburse him by Michaelmas next at 6 per cent. interest the moneys he shall advance thereon ; It was committed also to Mr. Speaker to move my Lord Treasurer therein, and Mr. Pepys directed to give Mr. Speaker a memorial of the several heads this day mentioned of the wants of money, and particularly that of the galleys, and the reasons pressing for the dispatch thereof this summer.

It was left to the discretion of the members of the Navy Board attending the pay of ships to pay the widows and orphans, and also seamen absent by sickness at the time when the ship is paid, notwithstanding the late resolution⁴ taken against paying the wages of persons absent.

Mr. Speaker to see that the charge of the hospitals be retrenched out of the first moneys appointed for the use of the sick and wounded.

Mr. Pepys to attend his Majesty for his pleasure touching the keeping the F[rench] Ruby still in pay as a guardship at Sheerness.

The Officers of the Navy advise that the wreck⁵ of the Anne may be with all speed weighed,⁶ and Mr. Speaker was desired to provide money for the same.

The Lord Privy Seal charges himself with the dispatch of the privy seal for the sale of the cast vessels.

ORDERED, that the Officers of the Navy prepare a particular estimate of the charge of fitting the hulk designed for Tangier.

'A petition of Mr. Greengam's being read, desiring opportunity of purging himself before my Lords, as he had done before the Officers of the Navy,' the Lords declare themselves satisfied, 'provided that my Lord Treasurer,

¹ See note on p. 15 above.

² Possibly Laurence Debusty, Dibusty, or de Bustie, a merchant; he had been knighted in December, 1672.

³ Paymaster-general.

⁴ See 16th March.

⁵ MS. 'wrack,' as often elsewhere. See note on p. 31 above.

⁶ MS. 'waged.'

from whom the complaint against him first arose, be the like.'

It being moved that the new ship building at Yarmouth, and designed for a fireship during the war, may now be finished as a frigate; Mr. Pepys was directed to receive his Majesty's pleasure and see his orders issued thereon.

Mr. Southwell's petitions of Kinsale being read, with a letter of Sir H. Ford's,¹ for reimbursement of his layings-out upon the score of sick and wounded at Kinsale; It was referred to the General Commissioners for that affair, to be paid in proportion out of the moneys allotted to that service.

Mr. Pepys acquaints Mr. Secretary Coventry with a vessel ready bound to Barbadoes, by which he may send the advertisement designed to be sent thither touching the peace.

ORDERED, that the supernumeraries in the ships in the Downs be discharged by general tickets to be paid here upon the arrival of the men.

Mr. Speaker taking notice of the late rudeness of the seamen at his office,² and declaring his stopping the payment of their wages in punishment for the same, and their Lordships being informed by Mr. Pepys of the law provided by Act of Parliament³ in that case, they do refer Mr. Speaker to the said law for the future punishment of seamen so offending.

ORDERED, that the tickets of men discharged by the Lords' order about the beginning of February last with promise entered upon their tickets of being paid when their ships were paid, be now duly paid with the ships, notwithstanding the late resolution⁴ for respiting the payment of all tickets.

¹ Sir Henry Ford was secretary of state to the lord lieutenant of Ireland (*D. N. B.*, xix. 418).

² Edward Seymour, the Speaker, had been appointed treasurer of the navy in June 1673.

³ 16 Car. II. c. 5, as amended by 22 & 23 Car. II. c. 23 (see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 185, 188).

⁴ See 21st March.

MARCH 30, 1674

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Arlington ; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

A letter signed to Mr. James Pearse, Chirurgion-General of the Fleet, committing again to him the care of the sick and wounded thereof, as heretofore in time of peace.¹

Sir John Kempthorne² desiring that for preventing the loss of time attending the public sale, he may be put into present possession of three of the Greenland shallops ordered to be sold, which he would presently send away, obliging himself to allow his Majesty the utmost price any other of the like shallops shall be found to yield at the public sale, their Lordships did not think [f]it, though in so small a matter, to gratify anybody with the breach of the rule, that may be a precedent for others to desire the like favour.

AGREED, by advice of the Officers of the Navy, that the Newcastle and her company be sent to Harwich to help to rig and bring away the ship in building and near finished there.

The Lords do approve of the advice of the Officers of the Navy touching the number of officers and men fit to be borne upon the hulk³ now in fitting for Tangier.

Upon reading a petition of Mrs. Burch to his Majesty, praying the furniture of the Royal Escape, now ordered to be laid up, as a reward to her father's old service to the late King in the navy,⁴ It was RESOLVED, that his Majesty might with less inconveniency give her (if he thought fit) the value of the said furniture reasonably appraised in money, and that Mr. Pepys should attend the King with that their humble advice therein.

APRIL 1, 1674

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

[*No minutes entered.*]

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 137.

² See *D. N. B.*, xxx. 397.

³ The margin refers to the Europa hulk.

⁴ See 4th November.

APRIL 4, 1674

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal.][*No minutes entered.*]

APRIL 6, 1674

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde.][*No minutes entered.*]

APRIL 8, 1674

[*Present* : Prince Rupert ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Arlington.]

The Lord Arlington moving, by command from his Majesty, for some provision to be made for the bringing over 150 men and horse for Dieppe ; orders were accordingly resolved upon to be sent to the Officers of the Navy concerning it.

His Lordship also presenting the petition of one Golson, desiring employment in the navy, Mr. Pepys was directed to inform himself in the qualification of the person and to report the same to their Lordships.

Upon reading the report from the Judge of the Admiralty in the case of Sir John Godolphin¹ ; ORDERED, that the said Sir J. G. should be referred to the law, nothing appearing expedient for their Lordships to do therein than the writing a letter into the country to

— Jones and [the] Admiral there for certain information touching the pretended misbehaviour of Seeley and Hutchinson in contempt of the Admiral's jurisdiction.

RESOLVED, upon the petition of one Miller, a maimed seaman, desiring entertainment on board one of the King's ships, that his Majesty may be moved to renew an old Order of Council in behalf of maimed seamen for their reception into hospitals as vacancies should arise, and Mr. Pepys to attend his Majesty therein.

Colonel Strode's case and petition, desiring a prize ship of his Majesty for which he would undertake at his charge to transport all his Majesty's subjects from Surinam,² referred to the Officers of the Navy.

¹ Vice-admiral of North Cornwall.

² See 21st March.

RESOLVED, that the King be applied to in Council by a memorial to be prepared to that purpose by Mr. Pepys for a dispensation in the case of Shepherd, boatswain of the St. Andrew, against the strict letter of [the] establishment requiring 15 years' service to entitle a boatswain to the pension of a superannuated officer, whereas he wants a year, but is disabled by wounds to a much greater degree of merit than one year's service.

APRIL 11, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker. Officers of the Navy attending.]

Upon reading the Officers of the Navy's report in the case of Captain Sharland,¹ formerly commander of the Mary yacht; RESOLVED, that he hath fully acquitted himself of the charge brought against him, and that Mr. Pepys do report him to his Majesty from their Lordships as a person standing fair in their opinion for any new employment.

The draught of a contract with Sir Thomas Clutterbuck prepared by the Navy Officers for the victualling of the Mediterranean committed to Mr. Pepys to peruse, and report to their Lordships at their next meeting his observation[s] thereon.

Mr. Speaker informing my Lords of the design now on foot by the town of Rochester in the renewal of their charter to bring the town of Chatham within their jurisdiction, It was reserved to the Officers of the Navy to consider and give their Lordships their advice concerning the same.

Upon a motion of my Lord Privy Seal, It was ORDERED that, from after Easter week now approaching, the public meetings of their Lordships should be upon Wednesdays only and Saturdays in each week,² the present action of the navy in time of peace now admitting it, reserving their further meetings upon extraordinary occasions for particular summons.

Lieutenant Ford of the French Ruby his absence past

¹ MS. 'Sherland.'

² See note on p. 4 above.

and to come excused during his present sickness, upon good certificate thereof to be produced.

APRIL 13, 1674

[*Present* : Prince Rupert ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

Mr. Pepys presents their Lordships with his observations upon the draught of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's contract,¹ calling for some further considerations thereon, and is directed to confer upon them with the Officers of the Navy and bring their joint resolutions thereon to their Lordships at their next sitting.

Upon reading the Officers of the Navy's report upon Mr. Baylie's late proposition of building ships at Bristol² for his Majesty, their Lordships are satisfied from the said report that the said proposition is not fit to be pursued upon, and do order Mr. Pepys to inform my Lord Treasurer of this their determination.

Leave to Commissioner Deane³ to come to town.

Mr. Pepys informed their Lordships [of] his Majesty's pleasure that the Cambridge, now going to Tangier with soldiers, shall stay there, and that therefore the Assurance, designed with the Bristol for that station for the present summer, is not to proceed but be paid off, wherein their Lordships directed orders to be issued accordingly ; As also for the paying off of the Francis, lately borrowed by the Adventurers to Hudson Bay but now declared not to be by them made use of.

The report from the Officers of the Navy in the case of the ship Appeal and the affidavits thereon being read, their Lordships were satisfied, and ORDERED that a bill should be made out for her freight.

Mr. Boyce's petition being read, It was ORDERED that he should have the benefit of his course of payment in

¹ See 11th April.

² Mr. Francis Baylie, a Bristol shipbuilder, was already engaged in building the Oxford, a 4th-rate (see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1543).

³ Anthony Deane, the famous shipbuilder, was at this time resident commissioner of the navy at Portsmouth.

time if (as he pretends)¹ it doth appear to the Officers of the Navy that the delay in the passing of his bills hath not arisen from any defect on his part.

APRIL 15, 1674

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker.]

His Majesty's reference by Sir John Berkenhead² upon the petition of one Robert Butler, granting him the reversion of the next storekeeper's or clerk of the check's place that shall be void in the navy, ordered to be transmitted to the Principal Officers in order to their informing their Lordships how the said Butler is qualified for the execution of either of the said offices.

RESOLVED, that the victuals, wages, and other profits of any kind to be expected by Sir John Duteil³ in his employment as commander of one of the galleys be in the joint value thereof made equal to the value of the wages, victuals, and all other certain and allowed profits of a commander of the 2nd-rate ship, and not otherwise.

RESOLVED also, that for his travelling charges in his journey from and back to Livorne and stay here on the account of his Majesty and his service, his pay as commander (now running on) be made up by bill full 20s. a day, the allowance heretofore made him for his travelling charges.

ORDERED, that the Officers of the Navy be spoke withal at their next attendance on their Lordships touching the exchange now propounded by Mr. Speaker of the Unicorn to be laid at Sheerness as a guardship in the room of the French Ruby.

APRIL 17, 1674

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal.]

The corrected draught of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's

¹ MS. 'It was ordered that he should have the benefit of his course of payment in time (if he pretends) it doth appear . . .'

² See *D. N. B.*, v. 81.

³ On Sir John Duteil, see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1023.

contract¹ being read, was put into his hand to view, with a letter to the Officers of the Navy to receive and adjust any matters of exception he shall see cause to make to any part thereof, and particularly in a point he now mentions of the value of the loss to be borne by the King upon victuals provided by Sir T. C. and not timely taken off.

A letter signed to the Vice-Admiral of Cornwall touching the misbehaviour alleged against Mr. Seeley and others by Sir John Godolphin touching their invading the Admiral's jurisdiction and rights.

APRIL 29, 1674

[*Present*: Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

[*No minutes entered.*]

MAY 2, 1674

[*Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Officers of the Navy attending.]

Alderman Ward with some other merchants informing their Lordships of the interruption given to the ships of his Majesty's subjects in their going to Dunkirk by the capers of Ostend forcing them in thither and detaining them, and using several violencies to our masters and mariners in order to the gaining from them the confession of other interests in the ships and loadings than that of his Majesty's subjects, and thereupon the said alderman and merchants praying convoy for several vessels now going out and others bound home from Dunkirk, the Lords directed them to bring proofs of the matters complained of (which they promised speedily to do), upon which they will proceed to the representing the same to his Majesty and receiving his pleasure thereupon.

Upon reconsidering the business of Sir John Duteil's travelling charges,² it was RESOLVED, that he should have his choice, either of 20s. a day during the whole time of

¹ See 13th April; also *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1458.

² See 15th April.

his absence from Livorne, including his pay as commander of the galley, or 20s. per diem beside his pay during the time he was upon the road coming and shall be in his return (the time of travelling being reasonably computed) and only his pay without any other allowance during his attendance at London.

The draught of the establishment designed for the Officers of the Navy upon their late report upon the propositions of Mr. Speaker¹ touching the improving the method of their books for the course of payment, is referred to the said Officers and Mr. Pepys jointly to consider the same and report to their Lordships their opinions thereon, with the particulars wherein the same doth differ from the methods heretofore provided.

The Officers of the Navy reporting to their Lordships that they were at a full stop, and had so for some time been, in the business of their Office for want of money, declaring their not having received any supply thereof for any of the daily and contingent expenses of their Office, whether for stores, bills of exchange, salaries, pilotage, or for any other use than that of the wages of ships and yards and for the relief of widows and orphans, from some time in February last; Their Lordships did RESOLVE, to have the same communicated from themselves to the Lord Treasurer and to the Treasurer of the Navy so soon as the said Officers should deliver to their Lordships (which they were directed and did undertake very speedily to do) a particular of the several heads whereon their want of money doth at this day chiefly lie.

Upon reading the Navy Officers' letter to my Lords in answer to their Lordships' late demands and directions touching the form of their weekly certificates; It was RESOLVED, that a letter should be wrote to the Officers of the Navy enjoining them to resume the practice some years since established by his Royal Highness² for the speedy making up of the pay books at the end of every ship's pay, and lodging with the Clerk of the Acts of the Navy one perfect book, sealed up, in the form and for the uses thereby directed, and that the Treasurer of the Navy be also obliged in his weekly returns to his Office to set

¹ See 14th March.

² James, Duke of York.

down the particular sum of money issued at the pay of any ship or vessel within that week, and not in general terms as it hath of a long time been of so much money put into the paymaster's hands without any particular account for many months after how the same hath been issued for his Majesty's use.

The case of Mr. Pley of Weymouth referred to the Officers of the Navy.

A proposition of Sir John Pettus's,¹ tending to the improvement of the work lately done at Dunwich for the bringing of water for the watering of ships, rejected by my Lords, as being calculated for the particular benefit of the neighbourhood only, and yet to be done at his Majesty's charge.

The gunner of the *Leopard* appearing by good certificate to have performed the duty of lieutenant as well as gunner in her return from the Straits, while the lieutenant did that of the captain after the death of his commander, Captain Bowen ; It was RESOLVED, that the said gunner's pay should be made up lieutenant's.

MAY 6, 1674

[*Present* : Prince Rupert ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Vice - Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker.]

The Commissioners for the Admiralty Rights presenting the Lords with a paper touching the business of [the] Bachelor at Plymouth, brought from Cadiz by Mr. Idle and his company ; They were ordered, by Mr. Pepys, to bring the same by-and-by to the Council Board, there to be heard before his Majesty.

Sir Robert Robinson² attending the Lords with a letter from Sir John Werden³ touching a dogger to be

¹ Deputy vice-admiral for Suffolk (*D. N. B.*, xlv. 112). See also note on p. 23 above.

² Sir Robert Robinson was about to go to New York in command of the *Diamond* (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 1341). He had asked for a small vessel to attend him (*ib.*, No. 1466).

³ Sir John Werden or Worden (*D. N. B.*, lx. 295) was secretary to the Duke of York and a member of the navy board.

taken up to accompany him to New York, their Lordships rejected the same as unnecessary.

The business of dispatching away a ship to Surinam for the removal of his Majesty's subjects thence being moved by Mr. Pepys; It was ORDERED, that Mr. P. should attend his Majesty at the Committee of Foreign Affairs to receive his directions therein.

The report being read from the Navy Office touching the payment of the tickets of my Lord Craven's¹ soldiers; RESOLVED, that they be referred to payment in course.

Some workmen of the yards being called in, and pressing earnestly for payment of their arrears, It was answered that his Majesty's promise of paying them their arrears quarter by quarter should be made good, and that they were not to expect being paid faster.

Mr. Speaker being moved touching the payment of the ships and yards, promises to bring their Lordships an account on Saturday next of every particular ship paid off, the moneys paid to each, and the arrears remaining unsatisfied thereon, As also a quarter's pay to the yards should be made good to them within 10 days, and a further quarter to be constantly paid within each quarter.

Upon application of several workmen discharged from the yards desirous to be re-entered; RESOLVED, that upon every entry of new numbers for the time to come, the said discharged men, if equally qualified, should be preferred before strangers.

Captain Barber being recommended by the Lord Ossory to be allowed as midshipman extraordinary, their Lordships thought not fit to admit thereof, but RESOLVED, that he should be allowed lieutenant's wages for the time he served as lieutenant during Captain Carverth's sickness, and no more.

Mr. Pepys was directed to attend his Majesty for instructions to Sir John Duteil for the galley, and to cause the same to be prepared and signed by his Majesty, to be given to the said Duteil.

Affidavits about an Ostender's using violence to a

¹ The Earl of Craven was colonel of a number of regiments (D. N. B., xiii. 46).

master and others on board an English merchantman, putting of burning matches between his fingers, etc., being read, Mr. Pepys is ordered to bring it to the King and Council.

Referred to the Navy Board to consider of some fitting settlements to be made touching the business of the 'Runs,'¹ particularly in relation to the time backward for which a man who has served one year or more in the service shall be subject to the forfeiture of wages upon his deserting of the service.

MAY 9, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Speaker presents the Lords with a particular state and abstract of all his receipts, payments, and remains.²

The business of calling over of the ships' books again is discoursed and judged necessary. Mr. Speaker informs that my Lord Treasurer is providing money for it.

The Navy Office report about the Ticket Office is read, and being approved on by the Lords is RESOLVED to be tendered to his Majesty, at their next attending him, for his confirmation.

Mr. Pepys to bring the business of Surinam to the Council Board next Council day, As also the Navy Officers' report touching Colonel Strode's ship.

Lord Treasurer to be acquainted with the moneys necessary to be presently provided for the ship[s] now going out.

The Navy Officers' letter of the 8th instant upon divers subjects read, and their advice approved of.

As also their report upon the particular heads of service for which moneys are wanting. RESOLVED, that a copy thereof and a particular of the ships going

¹ By the practice of the navy an R. (for 'run') was placed in the muster-book against the names of those who had deserted or had missed three musters.

² See 6th May.

out be given to the Treasurer of the Navy, to be by him presented to the Lord Treasurer.

An Order of Council being read for the Roebuck¹ to be appointed as a standing convoy for protection of our merchantmen against Ostenders; RESOLVED, that orders be forthwith issued in purpose thereof.

MAY 10, 1674

[*Present*: The King; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Arlington; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

RESOLVED, that the war being now over, and with it the occasion of the dispensation to the French ships, striking to the English flag which during the conjunction of our fleets was thought expedient²; RESOLVED, that the flag be now exacted from the French as it was and ought to have been before the war.

To the better guidance of Sir John Narbrough, appointed to ride admiral this summer in the Downs, in reference to the Dutch fleet now going forth³; RESOLVED, that he continue in the Downs without taking notice of the said fleet in case of their being in sight while he is there. But if he fall with them at sea so near as that he cannot without dishonour decline visiting of them, then that he go and visit them.

The Governor of Tangier to send 50 soldiers to Livorne for the galley.⁴

The Governor also, from time to time, to give the galley instructions for her future proceedings.

The flag of the said galley to be just the same as the King's ships in England wear, and Mr. Pepys to see his Majesty's instructions issued to that purpose.

¹ A 6th-rate.

² See 14th March.

³ Cf. *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1504 and 1523.

⁴ The Margaret galley, which had been built at Leghorn for the king (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 227).

MAY 13, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker.]

Petition[s] read, which being many, and most of them in ordinary cases, Mr. Pepys is directed for the quicker dispatch of petitions from time to time in all such cases to draw answers upon the said petitions referring them in their Lordships' names to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy, to be relieved as far as it is consistent with the rules and practice of the navy.

Mr. Pepys is ordered to bring a memorial to the Council Board for the having something determined there on behalf of the widows and orphans relating to the former war.

Upon new entries of men in the yards, those lately discharged (if equally fit) to be entertained before strangers.

Sir Jonathan Atkins his commission being tendered to the Lords for his being Governor of the Barbadoes and read, wherein he is referred to my Lords for a commission as Vice-Admiral for instructions to him in that capacity; RESOLVED, that it be considered how far his Royal Highness's power of Admiral in that place is taken away or remains good, and Mr. Pepys directed to examine the same.

Mr. Boatman being called in, and offering to make proofs of several abuses in the ships' books in the navy, he is directed to bring in writing to Mr. Pepys for their Lordships a particular of what orders of theirs he desires for enabling him to bring in his evidence of the truth of his informations.¹

Captain Shales's 'particulars of retrenchments of charge in the navy' referred to the Officers of the Navy.

Navy Officers' letter read, reporting several great anchors² to have been taken up out of the sea in and about the Downs; Referred to the Officers of the Navy to inform themselves whether they were taken up within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty or Cinque Ports.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1528.

² MS. 'authors.'

MAY 16, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Sir Thomas Allin's privy seal read, granting him the White Fox prize, lately ordered by privy seal to be sold.

The instructions for Sir John Duteil read and approved.

Navy Board's letter of the 14th read, and their advice therein approved 'for the doing of the works at Woolwich by the great.'¹

Their Lordships being acquainted that Captain Herbert of the Cambridge, now bound for the Straits, had unnecessarily discharged 19 men of his complement, and those good ones, thereby giving occasion of a demand of money for the said men, which need not have been, and had taken the liberty of entering new ones in their room; RESOLVED, that he be forbid to enter any new ones, and that the said 19 men shall be sent after him by the Europa.

It was moved and agreed to, that his Majesty might be spoke unto for the reimbursements of Trinity House, out of the bounty his Majesty is now giving for the repair of the harbour of Newhaven, their disbursements on a survey heretofore by them made of that place by the Lord Admiral's orders.

Captain Rooth's letter of the 8th of April from the Straits read. Warrant from the King about the Morning Star, for stopping her being sold, to be recalled.

A new perfect draught of the contract with Sir Thomas Clutterbuck² for victualling of his Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean presented by the Officers of the Navy and referred to Mr. Pepys to peruse, and, if no ground of objection appears, to be by him presented from their Lordships to the Lord Treasurer for his approval.

The Officers of the Navy representing their general wants of money, having not wherewith to pay for the postage of letters; RESOLVED, that a letter with a

¹ *I.e.*, at a fixed price for the whole work.

² See 17th April.

particular of their said wants be writ and sent to the Lord Treasurer.

Hereupon Mr. Speaker coming in, informs my Lords that my Lord Treasurer had taken care for money for satisfying the bounty bills for widows and orphans, and will the next week settle an establishment for the contingencies of the navy.

MAY 18, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Swann, the steward of the Adventure, attending by order at the desire of Mr. Boatman¹ for the making good of some of Boatman's information, and offering to discover some cheats upon the book of the said ship,² is directed to bring the particulars thereof, for their Lordships' satisfying, to Mr. Pepys.

A bill of Mr. Betts the pilot to be paid out of course, 'in consideration of his late service in the discovering of a new channel in the mouth of the Thames.'

Their Lordships resolve from this time forward, the Court being gone to Windsor, to have one weekly meeting, viz., on Wednesdays, there or at Hampton Court, and another on Saturday here.³

MAY 23, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain. Navy Officers attending.]

The Navy Officers informing my Lords that they had yesterday made public sale of the cast ships, it was determined at the request of the said Officers that the moneys arising therefrom should be applied to the payment of salaries in the Navy Office and other contingencies there; which was agreed to, and Mr. Pepys directed to represent the same to the King for his timely approval.

Navy Officers move that Sir Thomas Clutterbuck might be dispatched, whose stay is now said to be occasioned only by the not finishing of his victualling

¹ See 13th May.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1532.

³ Derby House.

contract, which is now lodged with my Lord Treasurer for his approval,¹ where Sir T. C. is directed to solicit for the same, and Mr. Pepys also to move his Lordship therein.

Mr. Pepys is directed to write in the name of my Lords to Mr. Baylie of Bristol² upon the advice given them this day by the Navy Officers of his intention of launching the new ship he hath now built there, Pressing him to the using of all caution and the judgment of some master-shipwrights there in his doing thereof, remembering him of the case of the Edgar.

The Navy Board to present the Lords with the demands made by the person by them propounded to be carpenter of the galley; all which they approve of, saving that of his being reputed a carpenter of the 1st rate.

JUNE 3, 1674

[At Hampton Court. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

All the yachts to be forthwith graved.³

Captain Lankeston's⁴ petition to be received with others by the late establishment into half-pay denied, as having been turned out of his command by the Prince.

The Greyhound not to be laid up but kept abroad, provided the captain sail her with 25 men.⁵

The ship[s] lately sold by the Navy Officers to be made free ship[s], and Mr. P[epys] to bring the same to a Council Board to be there ordered.

¹ See 16th May.

² A copy of this letter is entered among the *Admiralty Letters* (No. 1543), for some unaccountable reason, in shorthand. The new ship was the Oxford, a 4th-rate. For the accident at the launch of the Edgar, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, ii. 310 n. See also *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1549.

³ With a view to attending the king at Portsmouth (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 1560).

⁴ 'Langston' in Pepys's *Register*. Charnock ascribes his being out of employment to the fact that the Newcastle had been laid up, and says nothing of his ejection from his command (*Biog. Nav.*, i. 241).

⁵ The Greyhound was a fireship with an ordinary peace complement of 40 men.

A fireship to be prepared, and kept as a guard at Portsmouth.

Captain Page's commission as commander of the boats for the security of the river Medway to be renewed.

The Morning Star to be delivered back to Captain Clarke for the use of himself and his company.

The wearing of the King's jacks by merchantmen to be forbid by proclamation, for preventing the inconveniencies that may arise from exceptions which may be taken thereto by our neighbours' striking to the same, as the Dutch fleet was lately observed to do to Captain Willshaw coming home in a merchantman with the King's jack, which had been permitted him in the late war.

The lease of Derby House, hired by his Majesty of the Duke of Ormonde for the use of the Admiralty, is confirmed by his Majesty and my Lords, and Mr. Pepys directed to enter into the lease on behalf of the King (the Duke of Ormonde insisting upon it), with promise from his Majesty and my Lords of his being indemnified against any inconveniences that should at any time arise to him from the same.

The John of Dover, woolcatcher,¹ to be discharged.

The business of the Chest and the demands of the Governors thereof upon my Lord Privy Seal being argued, the reasonableness thereof was on all hands agreed, and my Lord Privy Seal at the King's instance undertook to satisfy the same in money by or before Midsummer Day next, the King at his Lordship's request promising to give him all the reasonable assistance he should desire towards his obtaining satisfaction from Mr. Waith² and Fenn.³

JUNE 6, 1674

[*Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Seeley and others to be summoned to answer the contempt of the Admiral's jurisdiction.

The business of the Chest⁴ discoursed, Mr. Waith and

¹ See note on p. 489 below.

² MS. 'Weith.'

³ Both Waith and Fenn were paymasters of the navy and were officially connected with the Chest. On the lord privy seal's debt to the Chest, see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1559.

⁴ See 3rd June.

Mr. Fenn attending, which ending in my Lord Privy Seal's owing¹ his debt, and Mr. Waith undertaking upon demand to pay the £500 or £600 said to be due to his Lordship from him.

Mr. Speaker informs my Lords that my Lord Treasurer hath appointed £300,000 out of the customs by weekly payments for the discharging of the expense of this year, viz., £200,000 upon the old project of ordinary expense of the navy in time of peace, and the other £100,000 towards clearing the arrear of tickets and ships' books, and this besides the £60,000 charged upon the 6th quarter of the assessment.

He also saith that there is also particular provision made within very little to answer the several heads of the Navy Officers' late letter of demands of money.²

The Hatton ketch to be paid off and the Woolwich sloop employed in her room.

Mr. Baylie's letter from Bristol read of the conditions and state of his new ship now launched,³ with complaints of cutting down of trees in the Forest of Dean which Mr. P. is to acquaint my Lord Treasurer with. The Navy Board takes notice of Mr. Baylie's purpose of bringing about the said ship to Portsmouth with 60 men, which they conceive too little ; which he is to be cautioned by a letter.⁴

JUNE 9, 1674

[At Hampton Court. *Present* : The King ; Lord Keeper ; Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Arlington ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Pepys opening to his Majesty and my Lords the case of Captain Harris⁵ of the *Success* in his breach of order in leaving the adventurer with whom he was bound to Bilbao and coming in to Plymouth upon pretence of not being able to keep the sea, and yet going over to St. Malo from Plymouth with an order for his

¹ Acknowledging.

² See 16th May.

³ See 23rd May.

⁴ *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1570.

⁵ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1296. Captain Leonard Harris was not employed again until 1678.

private benefit in conveying of merchantmen, and this before anything was done to his ship to make her more able to go forth than she was when she came in; His Majesty and my Lords were pleased to order his being discharged from his employment forthwith, and another put into his room.

Captain Perriman to be kept in half-pay during peace.

His Majesty resolves that the Deptford ketch be fitted and sent to Marseilles for wine for his particular use.

Merchant-ships to be limited to the wearing nothing but St. George's flag.

The Portland to continue at Jamaica, and my Lord Vaughan, who is to go Governor thither, to be transported in a merchantman.

The Chest business¹ being again agreed [argued?], my Lord Privy Seal undertakes the payment of the whole debt within the time set, which is now respited to a month longer than was before agreed.

His Majesty approves of the Woolwich sloop to be sent to Guernsey.¹

Lieutenant Temple being propounded for the Norwich, his Majesty declares his refusal of him, upon recollection of some former failures of his.

Mr. Gelson being propounded to serve as a Commissioner of the Navy, is also rejected by his Majesty as a person not qualified for the same.

JUNE 13, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Their Lordships are acquainted with the readiness of the new 3rd-rate ships at Deptford to be launched, which they ORDERED to be done, and carried to Chatham.

The Lord Mulgrave's pension stopped, upon consideration of his several places of benefit. His Majesty's pleasure to be known therein.

Captain Wetwang's complaint of his lieutenant, who has of his own accord laid down his commission, to be heard at a court-martial.

¹ See 6th June.

Sir Thomas Allin reports that Captain Skelton never was on board his ship¹ in 10 days after her coming in, nor was present at her pay nor provided any books, or rated his men, but that he himself was driven to rate his men for him ; Referred by the Lords to Sir Thomas Allin² to call Captain Skelton to an account for this when he comes to be paid.

The Navy Officers are pressed by my Lords to the making all dispatch in their survey of his Majesty's ships and stores and representing the same by particulars to their Lordships.

JUNE 27, 1674

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker.]

Complaint brought from the Bezan yacht of a master of a merchant-vessel not saluting him ; the said master to be summoned thither on Saturday.

Mr. Secretary Coventry signifies his Majesty's pleasure to my Lords that Sir John Narbrough³ be forthwith writ to to detain the Dutch caper now in the Downs who had offered violence at sea to some of the King's subjects, and that the matter be referred to the Admiralty Court to be there examined and judged ; which was accordingly ORDERED to be done.

Mr. P. is ordered to receive and issue his Majesty's orders to Sir John Duteil touching the trusting of strangers soldiers or not, in the bringing of the galley from Livorne.⁴

The Navy Board's report being read touching an allowance to be made to Sir Thomas Clutterbuck for his journey ; It was RESOLVED, that he have the same allowance as Sir John Duteil has,⁵ for so long time as the matters in difference, and for which they both came into England, lay undecided between them.

¹ The Speedwell.

² As comptroller of the navy.

³ Commander-in-chief in the Downs. See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1582 and 1589.

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1584.

⁵ See 2nd May.

JUNE 30, 1674

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

The account of the sick and wounded to be hastened in.

Their Lordships yield to the number of 70 men propounded by Mr. Baylie for the bringing about of the new ship from Bristol, with caution to be given him in the doing thereof.¹

The report read and approved of from the court-martial in the case of Captain Wetwang and his lieutenant.²

The Navy Board's report to be considered touching the raising the wages of seamen in ordinary and approved, but referred for confirmation to the King and a fuller Board.

It was moved by the Navy Board and agreed to, that Sir Thomas Clutterbuck be allowed his travelling charges³ until September, when he was again confirmed in his agency.

Order of Council read for Captain Perriman's having half-pay during peace,⁴ and the same agreed to accordingly.

Captain Billopp called in, is denied the payment of any of the bills and tickets for which he sues⁵ but what relate immediately to his own wages and his servants'.

Navy Officers move that the Commission for Widows and Orphans may remain in their trust until further order⁶ ; Mr. P. to offer the same with their Lordships' approval to the King.

Mr. Speaker is desired to move my Lord Treasurer for £500 for the clearing of the old bills of widows and orphans.

¹ See 6th June ; and *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1597.

² See 13th June.

³ See 27th June.

⁴ See 9th June.

⁵ See 14th March.

⁶ The functions of the commission were eventually assigned to the navy board by an order of 21st December 1674 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 134).

JULY 3, 1674

[*Present*: The King; Lord Keeper; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Speaker.]

Upon desire made of his Majesty's directions for the better guidance of the Officers of the Navy in their making allowance of half-pay to the captains of 1st and 2nd-rate ships and second captains of flags¹ with respect to the other places of benefit by which they are to be excluded they having this allowance of half-pay, which places of benefit being not properly cognisable to the Officers of the Navy, they desire to know how they shall be informed therein; His Majesty is pleased to take the determination thereof to himself, to be from time to time by his own warrant signified to them as often as warrants are to be issued for the said half-pay.

The Lord Ossory to be allowed the pension due to his flag as it was settled at the end of the first war.

Leave to Commissioner Deane to lay timber in Harwich yard.

His Majesty approves of the Navy Officers' proposition of increasing the wages of seamen in ordinary,² as also that of continuing the present Commission for Relief of Widows and Orphans until further order.²

His Majesty does admit of Duteil's making use of strangers' soldiers in the bringing about the galley to Tangier,³ provided they be appointed thereto by the Great Duke.⁴

His Majesty owns his having given order to Commissioner Deane for increasing the scantlings and dimensions in several particulars of the new ships last built by Mr. Deane at Harwich above the terms of the contract, for which he is to be considered as the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy shall judge reasonable.

JULY 4, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

The Commissioners for the Admiralty Rights attend

¹ Under an order in council of 6th May (see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 146).

² See 30th June.

³ See 27th June.

⁴ The Grand Duke of Tuscany.

the Lords for their assent that the Bachelor prize may be brought about from Plymouth; which their Lordships do give them.

Mr. Pepys is directed to signify the Lords' pleasure that Mr. Waith and Mr. Fenn do attend the Lord Brouncker, to whom is committed the adjustment of the accounts of the Chest depending between my Lord Privy Seal and them.¹

Upon good excuse the attendance of Mr. Seeley and others ² is deferred until this day fortnight.

Several letters read and signed, pursuant to his Majesty's resolutions yesterday at Hampton Court.

The Navy Officers' letter read about the estimate for finishing the new ships, and the same being signed is ORDERED to be presented to his Majesty at their next attending him.

JULY 10, 1674

[*Present*: The King; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Captain Rooth's letter read touching the ill usage offered to several of his Majesty's commanders by the Governor of Cadiz, Which Mr. P. is directed to communicate to my Lord Arlington ³ in order to his Majesty's demanding satisfaction.

The Portland to stay at Jamaica, and the Navy Office to be writ to for providing the most husbandly expedient for transporting my Lord Vaughan thither.⁴

Captain Rooth's fireship is to stop at Portsmouth, and the Wivenhoe to lie as a guard in the river Medway.

Mr. Pepys acquaints his Majesty with the readiness of the ship appointed to carry Sir Jonathan Atkins, in order to his being dispatched elsewhere; which his Majesty was pleased to give order for.

¹ See 9th June. Lord Brouncker was comptroller of the treasurer's accounts.

² See 6th June.

³ As one of the secretaries of state.

⁴ See 9th June.

Mr. Pett¹ the master-builder at Chatham his wages to be made up £150 per annum for the time to come, and the sum of £500 to be given him out of the next sale of old provisions, in consideration of his services without suitable salary for the time past.

JULY 11, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

The Navy Officers' report read touching the business of Ward's discoveries of abuses in the yards,² and referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider what may be fit to be done in reward to the discoverer and punishment of the guilty. As also how to prevent the abuse in chips by putting them into a method of being sold.

A letter read from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck to the Navy Office demanding more money for the dispatch of the galley; which was referred to Mr. Speaker to communicate to my Lord Treasurer against the next post.

The estimate also of the charge of finishing the new ships is put into Mr. Speaker's hands to be shewn my Lord Treasurer.

Mr. Fowell's³ letter read demanding compensation for pains by him pretended to be taken at Plymouth about the Bachelor, but not thought reasonable by my Lord[s] to be admitted. RESOLVED, that the common men belonging to the said ship Bachelor may have some proportion of the bounty propounded to be given by his Majesty to Idle, the master thereof.

Vice-Admiral[s] of the countries⁴ to be called upon to renew their commissions, as well in respect to my Lords the present Lord Admiral as for the preventing any

¹ One of the numerous Phineas Petts. On the various members of this family, see *D. N. B.*, xlv. 102-6, and W. G. Perrin, *The Autobiography of Phineas Pett* (N.R.S. Series, 1917).

² See 16th March.

³ John Fowell, esquire, vice-admiral of Devon.

⁴ Often used in the sense of 'counties.'

more questions touching the authority of the Vice-Admirals' proceedings, such as lately were in the case of Mr. Seeley against Sir John Godolphin¹ pleading the invalidity of his old commission.

My Lords sign the establishment of the method of payments and assigning of bills for payment to be hereafter observed by the Officers of the Navy.

The Order of Council read in the case of the John of Dover, and the parties concerned directed to bring proofs of the profit they pretend his Majesty has received from their employing the said vessel in the business of wool-catching.²

ORDERED, that³ the pension of Judge-Advocate Fowler, lately deceased, be continued only to the quarter-day before his death, the allowance for the quarter wherein he died being to be paid to his daughter, as of his Majesty's special bounty to her, without account.

Their Lordships agree to recommend Mr. Killigrew, son of Sir Robert Killigrew,⁴ to go as a volunteer with Captain Griffith in the Diamond.

JULY 17, 1674

[At Hampton Court. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Arlington; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

The Master and Brethren of Trinity House being called in, and their report against the lighthouse propounded by Mr. Angell to be erected upon the Spurn Head being read, his Majesty and my Lords were satisfied in the reasons of the said report, and RESOLVED, that his Majesty's grant for the erection thereof should be stopped.

His Majesty, upon a motion aris[ing] from the Officers of the Navy, allows that some men should be sent from

¹ Vice-admiral of North Cornwall.

² See note on p. 489 below.

³ MS. 'to.'

⁴ Sir Robert Killigrew the courtier, who died in 1633 (*D. N. B.*, xxxi. 110), had a son William, knighted 1626. Sir William's son and heir, Robert, was knighted in 1650; and 'Mr. Killigrew' is probably his son.

his own ships now to be laid up at Portsmouth, for the bringing about thither the new ship from Bristol¹; Baylie bearing the whole charge of their wages from their leaving the said ships to the end of the work done.

The Navy Board's letter for the settlement of the Ticket Office, and the increasing the salaries of the upper clerks of the Navy Office, read and approved.

No sloop to be allowed to go with my Lord Vaughan to Jamaica at the King's charge while there is a frigate to attend him; but the use of the hull without other charge is to be given him in case he desires it.

JULY 18, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Speaker informs my Lords that £6000 will be ready at the day assigned for the payment of the Chest, and declaring his purpose of beginning a journey this day into the country for some time, desires that what occasions there shall happen in his absence of having anything relating unto money represented to the Lord Treasurer from their Lordships may be done by Mr. Pepys; which was agreed to.

ORDERED, that his Royal Highness's bargemen employed in attending him on several occasions upon his Majesty's service, for which they remain still unsatisfied, be forthwith paid.

Mr. Seeley this day according to order attending, and the business opened in which he was complained of by Sir John Godolphin for contempt shewn to the Admiral's jurisdiction,² all parties being present, Mr. Seeley acknowledged his sensibleness of his miscarriage therein, and thereupon excused by my Lords and dismissed, with expressions on his part of much thankfulness for their Lordships' clemency to him therein.

Their Lordships having fresh occasion hereby given them of renewing their late resolutions of pressing the several Vice-Admirals and their officers to the taking out new commissions, Mr. Seeley having in this day's debate

¹ See 30th June.

² See 11th July.

strongly urged the invalidity of Sir John Godolphin's old commission.

JULY 24, 1674

[At Hampton Court. *Present*: The King; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Arlington; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Sir Edmund Windham's letter read in behalf of some officers of his belonging to the Marshalsea who have been called to account by my Lords of the Admiralty for arresting a person of the navy in his Majesty's pay; in which letter he gives an account of a late declaration made by my Lord Chief Justice in Court that no seaman or soldier, though in his Majesty's pay, is exempted from arrest. Which matter being largely debated, and the inconveniencies to his Majesty's service answering from that doctrine fully opened, and a letter of Captain Gardiner's, commander of the Falcon, read, complaining of a seaman of his, newly come in, being arrested just before pay-day, by which he will be put out of a capacity of being presently paid; His Majesty was pleased to refer the consideration of that whole matter to my Lord Keeper, with directions to his Lordship to confer with my Lord Chief Justice thereon and report to his Majesty with all convenient speed the result thereof.¹

The King is pleased to explain the words 'out of employment' in the establishment for flag-officers' pensions² to relate only to sea employments.

His Majesty further declares, touching his bounty lately established to captains of 1st and 2nd-rate ships,³ That he means it not to such as were only put in to carry in great ships after a fight, but to those, and those only, who either actually have fought or at least whilst they were in commission were with the rest of the fleet in the way in expectation of fighting.

¹ See 25th July. Some light is also thrown on the principles adopted by the admiralty by *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1784 and 1930; see also Nos. 1686, 1687, and *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. 1.

² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 145.

³ See *ib.*, i. 146.

JULY 25, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Navy Officers attending.]

Captain Andrews, concerned in the harbour of New-haven, praying from my Lords the benefit of the Act for Land Carriage,¹ is denied, as not judging themselves empowered by the law to give it him.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck informs my Lords of the officers of the Great Duke of Tuscany's putting a guard, contrary to former practice, upon his Majesty's ship the Centurion. Which Mr. Pepys is directed to inquire into, to the end that, if true, the ground of it may be also examined and reported to his Majesty.

A letter to be writ to the Lord Treasurer about the £3500 new supply demanded for the getting forth of the galley at Livorne, whereof £1500 to be paid in present money to Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, with power of drawing bills for the remainder as is usual.

The Lord Treasurer to be moved for money for satisfying the balance of Mr. Reeves the purser's account by a fund to answer that and the balances of all other pursers in the like case.

Captain Rooth's second lieutenant to be allowed for the time he served since the death of his first.

The matter of Sir Edmund Windham's letter lately mentioned² falling again into discourse, their Lordships were pleased to resolve to continue the practice hitherto used by the Lords Admirals in the case of arresting of any man in his Majesty's sea pay, by taking into custody both the parties arresting and the party at whose suit the arrest is made, until my Lord Keeper shall have reported to the King the issue of his conference to be had with my Lord Chief Justice on that subject and that thereupon the King shall direct otherwise.

Mr. Pepys informing my Lords of the information he had received touching Captain Harris in the Constant Warwick his exacting $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. for money by him brought from Cadiz to St. Malo, which is $1\frac{1}{4}$ more than the

¹ 14 Car. II. c. 20 (1662).

² See 24th July.

King's rule allows¹; RESOLVED, that a stop be put to the payment of the said captain's wages, and proofs be brought with all convenient speed from the merchants at St. Malo of the truth of the said complaint.

JULY 28, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Arlington; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

The Mary yacht on the coast of Ireland, upon a letter to that purpose from the Officers of the Navy, is ordered another year's pay beyond what was intended her.

The Navy Officers' letter about Whittington's case being read, is to be offered to his Majesty at their Lordships' next attending him.

AUGUST 2, 1674

[At Hampton Court. *Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

The draught of a proclamation for regulating the colours to be worn on merchantmen read, approved, and ordered to be presented to the Council Board to be from thence committed to the Attorney-General.

£600 in money and a medal to be bestowed upon Captain Thomas Harman in reward of his brave action in single combat with the Dutch man-of-war off of Cadiz.²

His Majesty and my Lords refuse to give Colonel Slingsby the protection from arrests which he desires for a few days during his attendance on the Navy Board for clearing his accounts.

The Navy Officers' report in the case of Whittington read and approved.

Consideration being had of the necessitous condition of Captain Day, commander of the Bezan yacht; ORDERED upon his petition, that he be supplied by an

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1651. The 'rule' had been established by an order in council of 30th July 1673 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 189).

² For an account of this action see Charnock, *Biog. Nav.*, i. 335.

imprest to the value of what will complete his wages to January last.

Matter of fact to be examined in the case of Woolgate, boatswain of Portsmouth yard, praying an increase of wages answerable to what hath been granted to the other officers.

An allowance of the value of midshipman's pay to be made to Mr. Greyham, an officer of Tangier, who was in the late action with Captain Harman off of Cadiz, but not to be given him under the title of midshipman but as of his Majesty's bounty; And my Lord Middleton¹ to be writ to not to give any more such warrants for the bearing of midshipmen on any of his Majesty's ships above the ordinary number established on the said ship.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1674

[At Derby House. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

The petition of Mr. Idle, late master of the ship Bachelor, being read, praying that he may receive the benefit of his Majesty's bounty intended him by his Order in Council the 10th July last; the said petition was referred to the Judge of the Admiralty to report to my Lords how the said ship and goods are adjudged by the Court,—what part to the King, what to others, and what remains in dispute—to the end their Lordships, having the whole matter before them, may be enabled to make report thereof to his Majesty.

The Foresight to be speedily manned and fitted for her voyage to Jamaica.

The Dartmouth's present complement of 75 men to be made up to 100, 'during her being employed this winter season upon the coast of Ireland.'

The complement of the Roebuck not to be increased.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy, with some examinations concerning the embezzlement of some of his Majesty's cordage by the boatswain of the Princess, being read, my Lords directed the Officers of the Navy

¹ Late governor of Tangier; see *D. N. B.*, xxxvii. 352. The news of his death had not yet reached England.

to prosecute the said boatswain according to the Act¹ for preventing the embezzlement of his Majesty's stores.

Upon reading two letters from Sir John Duteil,² wherein he desires that some care may be taken for sending back the soldiers and slaves which were lent by the Duke of Tuscany for bringing about the galley to Tangier; their Lordships directed that an order be sent to the Maryrose, or the first ship that shall come to Tangier bound up the Straits, to carry back the said soldiers and slaves to Livorne.³

Mr. How, the agent at Jersey, to be transported thither from Portsmouth by the Greyhound, with money for the payment of the garrison.

A letter from Sir Leo[line] Jenkins, Judge of the Admiralty, dated this day, being presented to my Lords, with a petition enclosed of Richard Selwyn and Thomas Scarvill, two officers of the Marshal's of the Admiralty, complaining of several abuses offered them by Edward Gilman, John Streate, William Simons, and Benjamin Harvey, in their endeavouring to put in execution some warrants from the Court of Admiralty for the preservation of the spawn and fry of fishes in the river of Thames, and Sir L. Jenkins in his letter mentioning that the said Scarvill was bound over to appear at the sessions in the City on Monday next and humbly offering to their Lordships' consideration whether the cause should not be removed into the King's Bench; their Lordships directed that the Judge of the Admiralty should remove the cause accordingly, and that the said Gilman, Streate, Simons, and Harvey should be summoned to appear before their Lordships on Wednesday next.

Their Lordships, upon consideration that the Council meets on Wednesday mornings, were pleased to RESOLVE to meet at Derby House at 8 of the clock on Wednesday mornings, that so they may dispatch their business before the Council meets.

The Officers of the Navy proposing that it would be necessary the Royal Oak in her going about to Chatham

¹ 22 & 23 Car. II. c. 23. See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 185-8.

² See 3rd July.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1740.

be furnished with 10 demi-culverins, 50 small arms, and ammunition proportionable; Their Lordships directed that an order be sent to the Master of the Ordnance for supplying the same.

The Surveyor of the Navy's estimate of the charges of repairing the King's ships and supplying the stores being presented to their Lordships, they were pleased to respite the consideration of.

The petition of William Fivefoote being read, wherein he prays to be paid as master-carpenter of the Olive Branch fireship, which place he executed by order from his commander upon the death of the former carpenter in her late voyage to the Straits; Their Lordships directed that the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy should make allowance of pay as master-carpenter for the time he served in that capacity.

My Lords, being acquainted that Captain Binning, commander of his Majesty's ship the Swan, and Mr. Hunt, his lieutenant, had sent up complaints against each other, Were pleased to direct that Sir John Narbrough be ordered to call before him the said captain and lieutenant and inquire into the differences between them, and report unto my Lords how he finds the same, and to secure the offender in case he shall find it necessary for his Majesty's service.

SEPTEMBER 6, 1674

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Sir John Narbrough's letters being read, touching some late indignities offered to the Anne yacht and Woolwich sloop by some Ostend capers; RESOLVED, that Captain Carverth,¹ commander of the Woolwich sloop, be sent for in in custody, to answer to his misbehaviour in bracing his head-sails to the mast at the command of the caper; As also all means be used for finding and bringing in every of the said capers, and that a letter be wrote to Monterey² for satisfaction concerning them.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1728, 1760.

² See note 3 on p. 95 below.

The Hunter and Guernsey to be fitted forth to cruise for the security of the Channel.

Upon fresh mention made by Mr. Pepys of the complaints our merchants make of the injuries they suffer and are further exposed to from those of Sallee ; It was RESOLVED, that the Bristol and Drake were all the force the King could at this time spare for that service, and that they diligently applying themselves thereto would be sufficient.

A letter from the Bailiffs of Yarmouth being read, demanding convoy for their herring-fishery ; It was RESOLVED, that a 4th and 5th-rate should be provided against the times they desire, and that in the mean time the Swan, Holmes, and Merlin yacht be forthwith sent to attend them in their fishing.

ORDERED also, that two more 5th-rates be set forth to cruise at home for the safety of the Channel.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1674

[*Present*: The King ; Lord Keeper ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.¹]

The matter of complaint being opened to his Majesty of Captain Harris's exacting $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. for the plate brought home by him from Cadiz to St. Malo,² and the same proved and confessed, he was ORDERED to repay to the merchants concerned the full value of what he so exacted above 1 per cent., the same to be done before he receive his wages, his ship being paid off putting it out of the King's power to punish him further by the discharging him his command.

The case of Captain Haddock³ being also opened, touching his fault in going without order back to Malaga and coming thence laden home with merchants' goods ;

¹ Williamson's name appears for the first time in the commission when it was renewed 28th July 1675, but he must have been an acting member from the date of this meeting.

² See 25th July.

³ Captain Richard Haddock, commander of the *Ann* and *Christopher* fireship. See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1756, 1881.

RESOLVED, that he be taken into custody and tried by a court-martial.

Mr. Secretary Coventry presenting to my Lords a petition of Captain Hobbs's, desiring his Majesty's grant to him of the ship Stavoreen in consideration of his good services at St. Helena; RESOLVED, that the petition cannot be granted, she being entered as a man-of-war in the list of the navy, but that Sir Robert Southwell be writ to for an account of what rewards have been at any time given by my Lords Commissioners for Prizes for the like services of that [of] Captain Hobbs.¹

The like answer given to Monsieur Gallott's petition on another score for the ship Arms of Rotterdam.

The like to Wynn's petition for the Hare dogger.

Captain Lidall's widow her petition, for payment of some money to her before it becomes payable in course, not granted.

A merchantman to be treated with for the carrying Mr. Gorge and Mr. Cranfeild,² his Majesty's Commissioners, to Surinam.

Commissioner Deane to be sent for forthwith up to town to be treated with concerning his building two small frigates for his Majesty³ by contract in the river of Thames, to be employed against those of Sallee.

A petition from several merchants desiring passes⁴ for 20 Danish ships manned with Danes not granted.

£200 to be provided, to be distributed by the Governor of Tangier among the officers and men sent by the Great Duke of Tuscany with the galley from Livorne.⁵

The business of Captain Canning's prize taken by him at Jamaica to be referred to Sir Leo[line] Jenkins⁶ for his opinion touching her being to be esteemed a privateer or merchantman.

¹ This letter is No. 1747 in *Admiralty Letters*. Sir Robert Southwell was secretary to the commissioners of prizes.

² Mr. Edward Cranfeild was the principal commissioner for Surinam.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1795-7.

⁴ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xviii.

⁵ See 5th September.

⁶ See note on p. 108 below.

SEPTEMBER 19, 1674

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain. Navy Officers attending.]

The business of Mr. Idle touching the ship Bachelor referred to her being brought about from Plymouth, which he undertakes to see speedily done.

The Navy Officers' report read touching the case of Captain Tyrwhitt's misbehaviour in the keeping of his books of the ship Adventure,¹ whereby many tickets have been made out for wages to persons who had forfeited the same by running away from the service ; Wherein my Lords judged to deserve all the punishment due to so much neglect, he not appearing guilty of any designed knavery therein, directing Mr. P[epys] to lay the same before his Majesty and receive his directions concerning it.

Upon occasion given by a petition of one Richard Paine for payment of a debt contracted by his Majesty in the year '71 for land-carriage of timber ; RESOLVED, that at the return of Mr. Speaker² the whole business of the old debt of the navy, said to be secured upon the Wine Act,³ be taken into consideration, in order to the giving relief to the creditors of the navy in general concerned therein.

Sir Leoline⁴ Jenkins's letter read about Captain Carverth and the Ostend caper⁵ now newly taken at Cowes ; and RESOLVED, that both one and the other be tried at the Sessions of the Admiralty.

Navy Officers directed to give their opinion in writing touching the expediency of having a sloop appointed to attend the Foresight to Jamaica, and how the same may be done without addition of charge to the King, as it is propounded by Sir John Ernle.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1674

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Keeper ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

His Majesty's grant of Captain Haddock's forfeiture⁶ (for bringing home merchants' goods) to the poor of the

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1735.

² See 18th July.

³ See note on p. 315 below.

⁴ MS. 'Lyonell.'

⁵ See 6th September.

⁶ See 12th September.

Chest at Chatham read, approved, and signed by his Majesty.

The Navy Officers' letter touching the breach in Chatham river being read, ORDERED, that Mr. Attorney-General be directed to see that his Majesty have a good title given him to the ground on which the said breach has happened, and that being done the Officers of his Navy do proceed to the repairing of the said breach at his Majesty's charge; the ground to be afterwards, with all the benefits arising therefrom, bestowed by his Majesty's bounty upon the poor of the Chest.

The boatswain of the Princess, lately convicted of embezzlement of stores,¹ to forfeit his employment, notwithstanding the embezzlement exceeds not 20s., and that he has already according to law paid double the value thereof to his Majesty by sentence of the Officers of the Navy.²

The case of Captain Tyrwhitt's miscarriage³ in the ill-keeping of his ship's books being opened, and his Majesty inclining to some clemency towards the said captain in regard to his poverty and former services, is pleased to order that he be condemned to the forfeiture of his whole pay, whereof one-third to be given to the informer and the remainder bestowed back to the said captain as of his Majesty's special bounty to him.

OCTOBER 18, 1674

[At Whitehall. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper⁴; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

His Majesty having the last night at his return from Newmarket directed Mr. Pepys (after conference on that matter had with Sir John Narbrough) to prepare instructions for Sir J. N. in relation to the service he is

¹ See 5th September.

² By 22 & 23 Car. II. c. 23 the navy board was empowered to fine persons embezzling goods under the value of 20s. to an amount not exceeding twice the value of the goods (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 188).

³ See 19th September.

⁴ MS., in error, 'Lord Chancellor.'

now by his Majesty designed upon, to Argier for the redemption of the slaves there and from thence to Tunis and Tripoli for ratifying the last treaty of peace with those two Governments (which ratification is at this time thought necessary in regard of the removal of the Governors in those places since the said treaties were first made) ; His Majesty was pleased this Sunday morning to appoint a special meeting of my Lords for the hearing and debating the said instructions, which was accordingly done, and the same finally approved of, as well those which referred to Sir John Narbrough singly, being sailing orders, as what respected the redemption of the captives wherein he is to be jointly concerned with Sir Thomas Clutterbuck and the Consul of Argier.¹

It was also committed to my Lord Treasurer to see second bills of exchange provided for Sir John Narbrough to carry along with [him], together with a letter from the merchants here to hasten the payment of the second bills (in case the first should have miscarried) without staying out the full time of sight. His Lordship is also directed by the King to provide presents for the people of Tunis and Tripoli, to the value of £200 each, to be sent by Sir John Narbrough.²

Mr. Secretary Williamson is directed immediately to prepare credentials to pass the great seal, authorising Sir John Narbrough to confirm or alter anything he should think necessary relating to the present treaties, either of Argier, Tunis, or Tripoli.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck being called in, and opening the difficulties he lies under here for want of his moneys, and the adjustment of several affairs of his now depending, but yet expressing his submission to his Majesty's pleasure in case he shall command him to go ; His Majesty was pleased to excuse him, pitching forthwith upon Mr. Brisbane³ to be sent in his room.

RESOLVED, that £200 be provided, to be forthwith paid here or answered at Cadiz to Sir John Narbrough at his arrival there, for the contingences of the ships under his command.

¹ Mr. Martin ; see *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1871, 1879.

² See also *ib.*, No. 1874.

³ Judge-advocate.

OCTOBER 24, 1674

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Upon opening the business of Captain Tyrwhitt,¹ late commander of the *Adventure*, touching the errors to his Majesty's prejudice discovered in that ship's books by — Swann, steward of the said ship, in the making of men discharged and giving them tickets who ought to have been made 'run,' with the bearing of others upon the books for longer time than of right they ought; The truth whereof is by the Officers of the Navy said not to have been denied by the commander (though nothing further appears in proof of it than the allegations of the said steward, the present informer, who was not only privy but combining with the said commander in the abusing of the said books), and the whole appearing to have arisen, if not from the unfaithfulness yet from the negligence of the commander in not keeping the books of entries and discharges according to his instructions; It was RESOLVED, that the said Captain Tyrwhitt shall lose all the arrears of his pay due to him from his Majesty (his being already out of the King's service as having voluntarily quitted the same upon the score of his recusance²), and that the said steward the informer be allowed one-third thereof as a reward for his information, upon satisfaction by him given to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy touching his own behaviour with the captain in the corrupting of the said books and the true ground of his discovering the same; Which being examined, the said Principal Officers and Commissioners are to report to my Lords for their further direction touching the said steward's reward.

Upon large debate touching the liberty taken and now lately charged by particulars upon the several commanders of breaking the Lord Admiral's Instructions in taking in of merchants' goods, and the evils attending the same particularly enumerated and opened by Mr. Pepys; It was RESOLVED ON by his Majesty and their

¹ See 28th September.

² *I.e.*, under the Test Act of 1673.

Lordships that every one of the said captains should be called to an account for the same by a court-martial as Captain Haddock,¹ commander of the *Ann* and *Christopher* fireship, lately was for the same crime.

The building of the two small ships by Commissioner Deane¹ for his Majesty by contract being debated, he is directed by his Majesty to proceed with all dispatch upon them, they being designed for the particular service of Sallee.

Mr. Pepys offering to consideration the lessening as much as might be the summer guard, the winter being now at hand and the charge thereof much exceeding what is provided for in the £200,000 project;² It was RESOLVED, that the same should be done forthwith as far as the securing our trade at home against the Ostend capers and abroad against those of Sallee, and the performance of Sir John Narbrough's errand to Argeir, would permit; Which at present would reach no farther than the calling in the *Assistance* from the Downs, the *Swan* and *Holmes* from the Yarmouth fishery, and the *Ruby* with the soldiers borne upon her from Sheerness, which was ordered forthwith to be put in execution.

The *Trinity House* desired to proceed with the buoying of a sunken rock near Plymouth.

The petition of one Colonel Kennedy being read, complaining that Mr. Hare, justice of peace at Leigh,³ did not give him his assistance in the apprehending and detaining of George Cusack the pirate, lately taken by the said Kennedy in the river of Thames; It was ORDERED, that the said Justice Hare be summoned to answer the said complaint at the Council Board on Friday next.

ORDERED, at the desire of the persons borne thereon, that the hulk lying at Sheerness (said to be much in arrear of pay) have their wages so in arrear presently⁴ paid, and be hereafter paid with the yard at Sheerness, as the hulks of the other yards are.

The business of the disposal of the chips in the King's

¹ See 12th September.

² See 14th March.

³ MS. 'Lee'; probably the Essex Leigh, on a creek of the Thames near Southend.

⁴ Immediately.

yards,¹ and preventing the inconveniencies his Majesty is now liable to by the present method of having them left at the disposal of the officers and workmen, after long debate was referred to the further consideration of my Lords.

The Navy Officers' letter, with the determination of the Commissioners of Sewers touching the breach in the river of Medway, near Rochester, being read, and the Officers of the Navy (attending) seeming of different opinions touching the inconvenience his Majesty is to be thought liable to in time from the effects of the said breach upon the river and the safe and commodious mooring of his Royalships therein; It was RESOLVED, that the consideration of that particular be referred back again to the said Officers of the Navy for the informing themselves therein by the best inquiries they can make touching the same, and reporting to their Lordships, as soon as may be, the result of those their inquiries and opinions thereon.

Upon reading Captain Rooke's complaint² against an English master for not paying the respect due to his Majesty's ship *Holmes*, whereof he is commander; It was ORDERED, that the said master be called to an account for his said neglect so soon as Captain Rooke (who is now coming in) shall with his officers be here upon the place in readiness to prove the same.

OCTOBER 31, 1674

[At Derby House. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker. Officers of the Navy attending.]

This being the first day of their Lordships' meeting here since the interruption given thereto by the Court's being abroad, their Lordships were pleased to command Mr. Pepys to give them a succinct account of the present state of his Majesty's ships now at sea, As also what were coming in or going forth. Which was accordingly done, by his acquainting them, ship by ship, with the whole number in present sea pay, with the names of their com-

¹ See 11th July.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1783, 1812.

manders, the place where each now is, the service whereon employed, with the like of those going forth and others called in, for the lessening of his Majesty's charge as far as the present state of the several services on which they have been or at this time are employed will admit. The whole whereof being presented to their Lordships in a list prepared with distinct colours to that purpose, they proceeded to the hearing of a late letter from the Bailiffs of Yarmouth touching two ships by them desired and by his Majesty's order prepared for the convoying of the first and latter fleets of fish-ships, the one to be ready in the Downs by the middle of November and the other by the beginning of December.¹ Their Lordships ORDERED that of two men-of-war designed for the convoy, the Dragon, Sir Roger Strickland commander, attend the former, and the Rose, Captain Ashby commander, the latter,² and that the Rose, being a new-built ship,³ be upon her coming into Sheerness sheathed with lead.

The business of Surinam⁴ coming next into debate for the sending of vessels thither for carrying off from thence the persons and estates of his Majesty's subjects there, it was thought advisable that that whole matter should be hastened as much as may be, and Mr. Pepys was thereupon directed to advise with the Council of Trade touching the present state thereof, to the end what is to be done by their Lordships in order thereto may be known and dispatched.

Mr. Pepys presents to their Lordships a paper delivered him 3 days since by Mr. Speaker containing a state of his whole receipts and payments (upon each head respectively) from his entrance upon his Treasurership of the Navy to Michaelmas Day last, the total of his receipts amounting to ⁵ and that of his payments to ⁵

Several papers prepared for their Lordships' signing were read and approved, and accordingly signed.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1887, 1907, 1970, 2001.

² See *ib.*, Nos. 1940, 1941, 1974, 1989, 1999, 2010, 2018.

³ Built at Yarmouth in 1674.

⁴ On this see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. ii. p. xvi, and vol. iii. p. xxiv.

⁵ The figures are not filled in.

Several letters also from abroad were read, and particularly one from Captain Dickenson, commander of the *Hunter*, at present commander-in-chief in the Downs,¹ praying direction how to demean himself in reference to foreign men-of-war coming into the Downs and there riding with their pendant, by which signal alone it is that himself is distinguished as commander-in-chief from the rest of his Majesty's subjects riding then under his command, and thereupon desiring to know whether he be to permit the said strangers' men-of-war to continue with their pendants flying while they remain with him in the Downs. Touching which the practice of the navy in this case being contraverted, Mr. Vice-Chamberlain and Sir Jeremy Smyth declaring that the pendant, being the only mark for differencing a man-of-war from a merchantman, neither ought nor hath at any time within their memory been denied of foreign princes to wear either there or anywhere else, Whilst Commissioner Haddock on the contrary did in particular declare that in all his time and observation he doth not remember that a pendant has been suffered to be worn by a stranger in presence of any of his Majesty's ships of war; It was RESOLVED, that the debate of that matter be respited² to their next attendance on his Majesty, and that the Officers of the Navy do against that time prepare themselves to report the certainty of former practice in this matter.

The Officers of the Navy's advice for the increasing the number of men to the *Norwich*,³ which is designed by his Majesty to be this winter upon the north parts of Ireland, is approved.

The business lately debated before his Majesty being again entered upon this day touching the disposal of chips in his Majesty's yards,⁴ and the letter of the Officers of the Navy of the 14th of September last in particular considered; It was RESOLVED, That neither any officer nor workman in his Majesty's yards ought to have any interest in or profit arising to him from the said chips, But that the same be disposed of by sale, according to the directions heretofore sent from their Lordships to the Officers of the Navy on that behalf; And that to that

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1900.

² See *ib.*, No. 1905.

³ See *ib.*, No. 1899.

⁴ See 11th July.

purpose the Officers do forthwith proceed according [to] their own advice thereon in the said letter of the 14th of September to the making an essay in that matter, Authorising the said Officers to give all needful orders towards the doing thereof, and directing them to report to their Lordships in writing, after 6 months trial, the success of such their trial and their opinions how the same may be improved, or aught else propounded by which this matter may be finally settled to the best advantage of his Majesty.

RESOLVED also, in answer to the Navy Officers' query on that behalf in their said letter, that no decayed timber or plank pulled off from ships' sides shall be any longer claimed in any of his Majesty's yards as perquisites, but that the same be laid up or otherwise disposed of to the best benefit of his Majesty and him only.

Their Lordships do also approve of the Navy Officers' advice in their said letter touching £100 to be allowed to Ward¹ and his company in reward for their pains and charge, etc., in discovering some misdemeanours, and in particular (among others) that above-mentioned wherein his Majesty is abused under pretence of chips, and that besides the suspension from employment by which the said Principal Officers and Commissioners have attempted in part to punish — Colthorp, the foreman of the joiners, mentioned in their said letter, so much of the wages as remains at this day unsatisfied, either to the said — Colthorp or any other of the workmen (discharged or not discharged) as have been by you judged guilty of any of the misbehaviours wherewith they stand charged by the said Ward, be respited the payment by the said Officers of the Navy until further order from their Lordships.

The case of Sir John Kempthorne² being opened to their Lordships by Mr. Speaker in reference to his remaining unsatisfied the moneys allowed to him by his Majesty in consideration of his wounds, and Sir John Kempthorne earnestly suing to their Lordships for the present payment thereof; It was AGREED by their Lordships, that the

¹ See 11th July.

² See *D. N. B.*, xxx. 397.

same be paid forthwith out of such of the moneys arising upon the sale of old ships or stores as are not already engaged by their Lordships' order to any other uses, committing it to Mr. Speaker to move my Lord Treasurer in general for some provision to be speedily made for the satisfying the like claims of other commanders to whom his Majesty's allowance for wounds remains at this day unsatisfied.

Upon reading the petition and certificates of Captain Pearce,¹ who after many years service appears to be by his wounds received therein utterly incapable of further service; It was RESOLVED, that at their next attending his Majesty his case may be reported to him as extraordinary and calling for some extraordinary relief.

Upon reading a request from one Bottell in behalf of the King's Consul at Argier that he may have leave to ship some bales of goods on board the Roebuck to be transported to Argier for enabling the Consul to make good his undertaking in reference to the completing the ransoms of some slaves already discharged; It was denied, for preventing any misapplication to be made thereof to the giving any countenance to the practices so much of late complained of,—the King's commanders carrying merchants' goods.

On this occasion the Lord Arlington intimates to my Lords the further blameableness of some of our commanders in denying to take on board them some wine prepared by the Duke of Florence for presents to the King and Court while they all the while were using all their industry to freight their ships with merchants' goods; The particulars whereof are committed to Mr. Pepys's inquiries from Sir Bernard Gascoigne.²

Wednesday and Saturday's mornings ORDERED to be continued for the first times of their Lordships' public meetings.

His Highness Prince Rupert delivering to their Lordships a petition against one Nicholls, a purser, desiring

¹ Probably Captain John Pearce, who had been appointed lieutenant in 1665, and had been dangerously wounded in Sir Edward Spragge's attack on the Algerine shipping in Bugia Bay, 8th May 1671 (Charnock, *Biographia Navalis*, i. 253).

² See *D. N. B.*, xxi. 34.

that he may not by his employment be protected from being proceeded against by his creditors according to law; It was RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys do cause the said purser to be directed in their Lordships' names (as of course is in like cases usual) to give speedy satisfaction within the accustomed time to his creditors, or to shew their Lordships cause why he should not be left to answer his failure therein at law, Upon which their Lordships will give such further order as they shall see reasonable.

The estimate from the Officers of the Navy touching the state of the hulls and furniture of all his Majesty's ships, with the charge of the materials needful for repairing and recruiting the same, and doing other works in the yards specified in the said estimate, being proposed to their Lordships' consideration; It was ORDERED to be referred to their next meeting, and Mr. Pepys directed to present the same then again to them accordingly.

NOVEMBER 4, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker.]

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck attending, with a complaint touching a pink of his called the *Joseph*, taken by force in the Straits by a vessel of Majorca¹ and carried in[to] Porto Longone² (the said vessel for recovering of which the Deptford ketch was going from Livorne at the desire of the English merchants and in her way run upon a rock,³ to the great hazard of her and her company, and the forcing her to retire to Leghorn), their Lordships directed the said Sir T. C. to put the matter of his complaint in writing, upon which they would proceed to the making the same known to his Majesty in order to the demanding satisfaction from the Crown of Spain.

Mr. Pepys acquainting their Lordships that at the desire of the Commissioners of Tangier, signified to him by their secretary, he had provided from the Surveyor of the Navy a particular of all the naval stores sent in the *Europa* hulk to Tangier, and offering to their Lordships as matter of consideration how far it might be fit

¹ MS. 'May Yorke.'

² In Elba. MS. 'Portlangon.'

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1913.

to leave the disposal of the said stores to the Governor of that place, to be employed by him to the gratifying of the merchants and the masters of merchant-ships, which he understood to be the ground of the said Commissioners for Tangier their present enquiry, and which might not only tend to the disappointing of his Majesty in the seasonable supplying of his own ships and the giving an unnecessary occasion to his commanders of repairing to other ports, to the great loss of time, service, and increase of charge, but to the preventing that place being furnished with naval stores by the merchants, their wants may be answered out of the King's magazine; Their Lordships were pleased to declare that his Majesty's said stores ought not to be at the disposal of any but his master attendant there residing upon the hulk, who is accountable to the King for them, and for their being applied to the use of his own ships only; Directing also Mr. Pepys to see that the said list of stores be not delivered to the said Commissioners upon other terms.

A letter from the Navy Officers being read, informing their Lordships of their having lately sold 4 vessels of his Majesty's by virtue of the privy seal some time since issued for that purpose, and desiring that the said 4 ships by name might be made free ships by Order of Council, as the last were and these by the terms of their sale ought to be; Their Lordships agreed thereto, and committed it to the Lord Privy Seal to propose the same this day in Council.

Mr. Pepys, according to orders, acquaints their Lordships that he had informed himself from the Council of Plantations, and from Mr. Secretary Williamson in particular, touching the business of Surinam,¹ and the removing of his Majesty's subjects and their effects thence according to the late treaty with the Dutch, and finds that they had not proceeded further in their final determinations touching that matter (though they are upon it) than the dispatching presently away letters of advice to the said island to advise them of what they may shortly expect touching ships to be sent for their transportation; Adding further, that for saving time he had

¹ See 31st October.

wrote to the Officers of the Navy¹ for their advice how the said letters may be sent away with most safety, dispatch, and thrift, whether by a small vessel to be sent on purpose, there to be discharged, or by one of the large flyboats said to be designed to be sent thither for the carrying off of the people, with orders to continue there till the rest of the shipping to be appointed for that service shall arrive.

The Navy Officers' report read touching the value of the furniture of the Royal Escape, which has been petitioned for to his Majesty by the wife of her late commander Captain Burch,² daughter of Captain Kindon (who is said to have been serviceable to his late Majesty at the time of the fleet's refault³), which furniture is valued at £23 17s. My Lords do judge it more advisable that his Majesty's charity (if he thinks fit to express any to her) be shewn by so much money than by parting with the goods, which are fitted for the vessel and may occasion a greater expense in refitting of her, and be of ill consequence in the precedent.

An allowance to be made to Francis Sheldon, a soldier wounded at St. Christopher.

A petition from the Mayor and Jurats of Dover being read, urging the importance and present bad condition of the pier there, and as a means of bettering the same praying that their Lordships would be instrumental to procure grant of a composition trade to that particular port; and their Lordships inclining to favour in general the matter of the petition for so much as concerns the support of that pier, and remembering that the business of the composition trade in general was to have a hearing this day in Council, the petition was put into the hands of the Lord Privy Seal, with commission in their names to present the same to his Majesty in Council, that the particular case of Dover might be especially considered in the debates concerning the composition trade.

Upon the petition of Mrs. Hubbard, widow of Captain Hubbard, praying to be discharged of a debt due on her

¹ *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1910.

² See 30th March.

³ Perhaps a word coined on the analogy of 'default', to indicate the defection of the fleet from the Parliamentary cause in 1648 and its return to its allegiance to the King.

husband's account to the King to the value of £258 2s. 6d., and for which she apprehends herself in danger of being sued, whilst she pretends her being in an utter incapacity to discharge it; Their Lordships do not think it their parts to give any answer to the said petition, but leave her to the applying herself elsewhere for what she has to desire of his Majesty in that matter.

Mr. Pepys tendering to their Lordships the consideration of the general survey of the ships, Mr. Speaker read to them the particular state thereof pretended to the Lord Treasurer by Commissioner Deane, wherein the whole of the fleet were sorted by their several degrees of defects and want of repair, some calling for little, others for great, and the remainder requiring little less than the new building, with the said Commissioner's observations thereon relating to the time and charge needful for the performance of each. A copy of which the Lords desiring, Mr. Speaker promised the delivering of one to Mr. Pepys,¹ and ordered the consideration of that matter to be then re-sued.²

Captain Davies, commander of the Foresight (upon Sir John Ernle's resignation), and now going to Jamaica with the likelihood of being long abroad, prays the present payment of some arrears due to him on the account of former services, as that without which he shall not be able to fit himself as he ought to do for the said voyage; Their Lordships agreed that the same shall be paid, and recommended to Mr. Speaker to be done by him in such method as may be least injurious to his Majesty's course of payment and least liable to be drawn into precedent.

NOVEMBER 7, 1674

[At Whitehall. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Pepys presenting to their Lordships a draught of an article for prohibiting commanders to take in mer-

¹ Probably the report of 12th October, 1674, copied into Pepys's *Miscellanies*, v. 49, 663. See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 43.

² See note 3 on p. 222 below.

chants' goods,¹ and expressing the same more fully and forcedly than it hath yet been by the 40th of the printed instructions; Their Lordships largely debated the same, and approved thereof so far as that the same should be tendered to his Majesty for his approbation at their next attending him, with an addition to what is therein provided for the better discovering the practices of commanders in taking and transporting of merchants' goods from port to port abroad,—that is to say, that the standing officers of each ship be at their coming in obliged to deliver in, upon oath (if required) and upon forfeiture of their places, a true and full account of what they know touching their commander's violating of this instruction during the voyage.

Memorandum. That upon their Lordships' discourse upon this subject, Mr. Pepys took occasion of informing them of what his Majesty had done towards the punishing of Captain Anguish, commander of the Deptford ketch,² who by a printed bill of entry from Leghorn is found to have come thither laden from Marseilles with merchants' goods, notwithstanding his pretence of doing it for want of victuals. His crime wherein being in particular opened by Mr. Secretary Williamson in reference to the evil his Majesty may have sustained therefrom with respect to the express sent to Marseilles in a dependence of its meeting that ketch there for the present carrying of it over to Argier; Their Lordships concluded his Majesty had very justly resented the misbehaviour of the said captain, and that his Majesty had not done too much had his sending home (which his Majesty has committed to the care of Sir John Narbrough) been ordered to have been in chains.

The report from the Navy Office being read touching the husbandly way of send[ing] the letters of advice to Surinam,³ Mr. Pepys is ordered to communicate the same to the Council of Plantations. The discourse whereof gave occasion to Mr. Speaker to mention to their Lordships a complaint lately brought him by the wives of some seamen said to have been taken out of his Majesty's

¹ See 24th October.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1870, 1913, 1937.

³ See 4th November.

ship late at Jamaica by the Governor of that island, and forcibly detained there for the service of that place, which proceedings, if true, seeming to attend to the utter discouragement of any seamen to serve his Majesty on board any ships bound to any of the foreign plantations, and being also in itself an action very oppressive in the present case, They desire Mr. Speaker to cause the said matter of complaint to be drawn up and laid before them in writing, in order to their presenting the same to his Majesty for present redress, and the preventing of any of the like practices for the time to come.

NOVEMBER 14, 1674

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

RESOLVED, upon debate touching the business of Surinam¹ and the opinion of the Council of Plantations thereupon, signified by Mr. Secretary Williamson, that two or three flyboats be forthwith provided by the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy (as they shall judge the service to require) for the transporting of his Majesty's subjects from that island to some other of the plantations, the number of the said persons being estimated at about 1300, besides utensils for twenty sugar-workers, with their provisions and what other moveables the Officers of the Navy shall think reasonable to have stowage provided for; The said flyboats to be discharged as soon as they have delivered the same on shore.

RESOLVED also, that one of the said flyboats be instantly fitted to go before the rest to carry letters of advice to Surinam² of the care his Majesty is taking for the removal of his subjects thence, the said flyboat to remain there till the arrival of the rest.

Also that the *St. David*, gone with Sir Jonathan Atkins to the Barbadoes, being not to be relied upon for this service, from the uncertainty of her being found there at the time when the last of these flyboats can be

¹ See 7th November.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1923.

reasonably presumed to get thither, besides the loss of time in their being obliged to go to the Barbadoes, another man-of-war¹ be sent from hence to accompany, countenance, and secure the said flyboats,—such a one as his Majesty shall think fit to appoint for it,—wherein Mr. Pepys is to receive his Majesty's directions, and issue suitable orders from him for the dispatch of the said man-of-war, as well as what are needful about the flyboats, it being at the same time committed to the Secretaries of State (now present) to get the point cleared with the States whether they will interpret it as any breach of the article in the Treaty relating to this matter that besides the 3 flyboats (in case there be so many) sent to bring off the men, a man-of-war be ordered to accompany them to the island, there to ride without the bar, the 3 flyboats only going within to perform the service.

Upon debate had touching the business of the several commanders following, viz. Captain Russell of the Swallow, Captain Wylde of the Centurion, Captain Dawson of the Advice, Captain Wright of the Norwich, Captain Wyborne of the Guarland, Captain Gallop of the Thomas and Francis, Captain Fox of the Deal dogger, Captain Preistman of the Richmond, Captain Carter of the Crown, who being lately come home from foreign voyages are found transgressors of the 40th article of the Lord Admiral's Instructions² by their bringing home of merchants' goods, and have a stop put to the payment of their wages, and become exposed to be tried for the same at a court-martial, as Captain Haddock of the Ann and Christopher fireship was³; His Majesty, in consideration as well of the quality of several of the said commanders as the number of the whole and the present want of commanders in pay (those of the yachts excepted) sufficient for the holding of a court-martial, with the assent of my Lords was pleased to resolve and declare, That so many of the said commanders as shall pay to the Governors of the Chest at Chatham for the use of the said Chest, pursuant to the warrants directed to that purpose by their Lordships as well to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy as

¹ The Hunter was selected; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1953.

² See 7th November.

³ See 12th September.

to the said Governors, bearing date the 29th of September last, the full value of whatever freight or other consideration of any kind they either have received or hereafter shall receive upon account of any goods and merchandise by them taken on board their respective ships belonging to any merchant or other person upon terms of freight, and shall do the same within ten days at the furthest after adjustment of the said value by them respectively to be made with the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy upon a certificate under their hands, to be by the said commanders severally given, expressing the full value of the said freight, reward, or consideration by them received or expected to be received for the transporting of any such goods either from port to port abroad or from any foreign port to this or any other port of his Majesty's kingdoms, and upon what further light the said Principal Officers and Commissioners shall upon demand receive from any of the officers or companies of any of the said ships or shall otherwise obtain, And shall likewise enter into bond to the use of the said Chest in the penalty of £200 each to make good in like manner to the Chest the value of what shall at any time hereafter be further made to appear to have been by them received on the like account ; The said commander[s] shall be exempted from being brought to any trial for any breach of the said article of the L.H. Admiral's Instructions already past, and be in a capacity of receiving the wages due to them from his Majesty on this account stopped ; Declaring that whosoever of the said commanders shall fail of paying the said moneys and entering into bond as aforesaid within the time herein before limited, shall have their said wages continued to be stopped, and be forthwith called before a court-martial to be by the Lords of the Admiralty in that case specially summoned, there to answer for his said breach of the Lord High Admiral's Instructions.

And that for the time to come whoever shall be found guilty of the said misdemeanour after the intended renewal of the said Instructions, wherein the aforesaid article will receive some enlargement according to a draught to that purpose now read and agreed to and hereunder expressed, shall on no consideration whatsoever be

excused for answering for the same before a court-martial ; As well those commanders above-named as they who are now abroad and shall at their return be found guilty of the said misdemeanour before the said renewal of the Instructions being to be punished by their refunding of their freight and entering into bond as is above provided, and not otherwise.

It was also RESOLVED, that all the standing officers of his Majesty's ships respectively shall from henceforward be held obliged upon the demand of the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy to deliver in upon oath an account of what they know touching any merchants' goods, or other than the stores and provisions belonging to his Majesty, received on board any of their said ships by direction of their commanders at or from any port, either abroad or at home, and this to do upon peril of forfeiting their respective offices upon their being found in any wise failing therein.

And lastly, in consideration of his Majesty's remitting to the commanders above-named all other punishments than that of the refunding to the Chest and entering into bond as aforesaid, his Majesty was graciously pleased to resolve that the said Captain Haddock, upon the like refunding and entering into bond, be forthwith discharged from the remainder of that imprisonment whereto for the like misdemeanours of carrying merchants' goods and other breach of orders he was lately adjudged by sentence of a court-martial.

The draught of the enlargement of the article mentioned above, followeth on the other side :

And whereas the commanders of his Majesty's ships are, in their going forth unto and returning from foreign parts and also in their passing there between port and port, frequently found to receive on board merchandises of all sorts, to the great diminution of his Majesty's honour abroad, disappointment to his service, increase of his naval charge, and the frauds he is also thereby exposed to from the undue entry of such goods and merchandises, together with the great discouragement arising

therefrom to the owners of the trading-shipping of this kingdom ; It is here declared, that no captain or officer of any of his Majesty's ships shall, either at the desire of the merchants or upon any other inducements or pretence whatsoever (the case of ships at sea in distress only excepted) carry or receive on board any of the said ships, whether on terms of freight or otherwise, any sorts or kind of goods or merchandises belonging either to themselves or others (gold, silver, and jewels only excepted), Upon peril not only of forfeiting their wages for service past, being rendered incapable of future employment, and refunding to the poor of the Chest at Chatham the full value of the freight or other profits or advantages which the said commanders shall, by certificate from the Custom House, their own acknowledgement under their hands, information of their under-officers or company, or other satisfactory evidences, appear to have received or have a title to receive for or by reason of their carrying of the said goods, But also undergo such further punishment as shall be adjudged them by courts-martial to be from time to time especially called for the inquiring into and giving sentence in the same.

RESOLVED, upon full discourse had touching the present condition of the Royal Prince¹ in reference to the little improvement made upon her by what hath been yet done towards remedying her tenderness,² which defect excepted, she is judged in all other qualities equal to the best ship in the navy ; That the Officers of the Navy be directed at the first convenience to cause the said ship to be completely girdled with a girdling of oak timber not under seven inches thick.

Mr. Pepys acquainting his Majesty and my Lords of the Admiralty with what the Officers of the Navy had lately to that purpose wrote him touching the reasonable-

¹ The reference is evidently to the Prince, a 1st-rate, built at Chatham in 1670. The old Prince Royal had been lost on the Galloper, 3rd June, 1666.

² 'Tender' is a synonym for 'crank.'

ness of having all the commanders of all 6th-rate vessels subjected to the examination of the Trinity House, as the masters of the ships of every other rate are, in regard that the captains of the 6th, being not by the practice of the navy allowed any masters, are themselves to be thought qualified to perform the master's duty, and therefore, as well on behalf of his Majesty as of the lives of his subjects serving under them, ought to have their abilities in navigation and seamanship as well inquired into and certified as the masters of ships of the other rates are; The same was by his Majesty and their Lordships adjudged most advisable, and thereupon it was RESOLVED, that for the time to come no person should be esteemed qualified for the command of a 6th-rate ship nor have any commission granted him for the same, until he brings a certificate to the Secretary of the Admiralty (to be by him presented to his Majesty) in usual form from the Trinity House of Deptford Strand of his sufficiency to perform the charges of commander and master of a ship or vessel of that rate.

Upon mention made of the galley now coming from Livorne towards Tangier,¹ and Mr. Pepys communicating to his Majesty and my Lords the substance of a letter he had lately received from the Consul at Genoa intimating the late determination of that State to present his Majesty with the galley lately built there²; It was RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys should write to the said Consul³ for a particular state of the said galley in the condition she is given the King in, as to her hull, furniture (if any), and what remains to be done for the finishing and fitting her for the sea, to the end the moneys needful for the doing of it may be computed, and his Majesty thereby led to the determining further touching the same.

Another letter being also read from Captain Herbert in the Cambridge, giving an account of an indignity done to his Majesty's said ship by the Spanish governor of the castle in Altéa Bay,⁴ who shot two several shots very near the ship, contrary to all practice, and upon Captain

¹ See 5th September.

² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 227.

³ Mr. Legatt; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1960.

⁴ See *ib.*, No. 1952.

Herbert's sending his master on shore to enquire into the reason thereof, obliged the said master to pay 2 pieces of $\frac{8}{8}$ in satisfaction for the said shot; Mr. Pepys was directed to give Mr. Secretary Coventry an extract of so much of Herbert's said letter as concerne[d] that matter, in order to his Majesty's demanding satisfaction for the same.

Upon reading another letter from Captain Dickenson¹ in the *Hunter*, commander-in-chief in the Downs, desiring direction how to demean himself in reference to any foreign men-of-war which shall come into and remain in the Downs with their pendants in the maintop while his Majesty's ship at the same time commanding there shall ride without other mark or distinction than that of a pendant in the maintop, viz., whether he shall suffer the said foreign man-of-war to continue riding with his pendant up or cause it to be taken down, and it being upon discourse thereon observed, First, That pendants originally were not at all designed as a mark or distinction, but only ornaments; Next, That at this day the wearing of a pendant at the maintop is that which is everywhere become the mark of distinguishing a man-of-war from a merchantman; Thirdly, That our ensigns and jack, together with their lying in the admiral's berth, will sufficiently inform as well strangers as his Majesty's subjects which is the commander-in-chief, without the help of the pendants, so as no mistake can arise from the want of it, either on occasion of applications to be made or respect to be paid to her; Lastly, That no difficulty has at any time heretofore been made of permitting strangers' men-of-war to wear their pendants in presence of the commanders-in-chief in the Downs no more than elsewhere, the respect challenged by his Majesty lying not in lowering of the pendants but the flag or topsail, which was now averred by Mr. Vice-Chamberlain and Sir Jeremy Smyth, as it had lately been to Mr. Pepys by the body of the Trinity House, of whom he had on this occasion lately inquired after the knowledge and observation of the oldest seamen there. Whereupon it was RESOLVED by his Majesty and

¹ See 31st October.

their Lordships, That the lowering of the pendant and keeping of it down is not in this case to be exacted, and that Captain Dickenson should be accordingly directed therein; But that in case upon further inquiry into this matter (which Mr. Pepys was ordered to make with the Officers of the Navy¹) it should be found needful (with respect either to decency or use) that some distinction be observed between his Majesty's ship commanding in chief (and not bearing a flag) and others of his Majesty's ships or his subjects' riding in the Downs at the same time, some convenient mark or distinction be by them propounded to his Majesty and my Lords on that behalf in order to their further determination thereon.

ORDERED, that the Saudades,² now bound out to Portugal and said to have thirty-six months' pay in arrear to her, have part of the said arrear forthwith paid; And the same committed to the Lord Treasurer to give order in.

The like for the Cleveland yacht, said to have 44 months' wages unpaid.

Pursuant to a late resolution of my Lords,³ Mr. Pepys reported to his Majesty the case of Captain John Pearce, expressed in a petition and ample certificates from his Majesty's Serjeant Chirurgion, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Pearse, Chirurgion-General of the Fleet, by which it appears that, having served his Majesty as a commission officer for 8 years past, and receiving such a wound in his head at the cutting of the boom at Bugia (besides others in other services) as hath rendered him unable further to serve his Majesty, having brought upon him convulsion fits (and which he is frequently subject to) and the weakness of sight for the only sake whereof he was in the late war removed from his command in the Newcastle. Whereupon, in consideration of the extraordinariness of the case, as also of the service wherein the said Captain Pearce became thus disabled, unlikely to occasion much charge to his Majesty by the precedent of it; His Majesty was pleased to resolve and direct that he should be admitted to the same pension in proportion

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1956.

² See note on p. 258 below.

³ See 31st October.

to the value of the employment he last served in as by the establishment is appointed to warrant officers superannuated in his Majesty's service,¹ the said Captain Pearce being by his said wounds rendered equally incapable of supporting himself and family by any employment, either in his Majesty's service or any other.

Mrs. Burch ² to have £30 instead of the furniture of the Royal Escape.

His Majesty and their Lordships being informed by Mr. Pepys of the multitude of solicitations daily made by persons (some that have been at sea and others not) to be entered on board his Majesty's ships either as midshipmen extraordinary or volunteers with servants, and thereupon minding his Majesty as well of the resolution by himself already taken, and now for some time past observed, of admitting none as midshipmen extraordinary but such as having served him heretofore as commanders or lieutenants are now for want of employment during peace contented to serve him in the capacity of midshipman, as of the present lowness of the number of men borne in his Majesty's ship[s] in time of peace, such as cannot, with safety to the ship and satisfaction³ to the few able seamen that shall serve his Majesty, admit of such a number of volunteers—still less of servants—as might be while the ships were fuller manned; It was RESOLVED by his Majesty and my Lords, that his Majesty's late resolution shall for the time to come be strictly observed as to the admitting of midshipmen extraordinary, and that the Secretary of the Admiralty do from time to time carefully inform his Majesty in any applications made to him in this matter by persons not accordingly qualified. RESOLVED also, that no volunteers be admitted to carry servants with them on board any of his Majesty's ships, nor the extraordinary midshipmen without special warrant given by his Majesty for the same. Which debate giving also an occasion of discoursing in general touching the business of servants, wherein it was observed by Sir Jeremy Smyth that,

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 148.

² See 4th November.

³ MS. 'dissatisfaction.'

whereas the servants of the officers of ships ought to be taken by way of apprentices for 7 year, they are now generally entertained but for the voyage, by which the breeding of seamen is in a manner wholly prevented, and thereupon advising that some rule might be established for prohibiting the officers of his Majesty's ships to take servants on other terms than of a seven years' apprenticeship, Mr. Pepys informed his Majesty and my Lords that care was already taken by the constitution of the navy (if duly observed) in that particular; Which being referred to him to prepare for his Majesty and their Lordships fuller information against another meeting, the further discourse was respited till then.

Captain Roach, master of a merchantman, 'in reward for his extraordinary performances in the defence of his ship against two Dutch privateers during the late war,' to receive a medal 'of the usual value given to others for like services.'

Captain Davies's arrears, amounting to about £177, to be paid forthwith.¹

The petition also of a poor woman, Katherine Rawlins, now attending, being read, and praying that in consideration of her husband's being killed in his Majesty's service, and her being left with several children, besides that wherewith she is now big; His Majesty and my Lords, as in a matter for extraordinary charity, were pleased to order the present payment of the wages due on her said husband's ticket.

Mr. Pepys observing to his Majesty and my Lords the great number of seamen cripples, more than the few ships now abroad can by the late establishment² bear, and so are left out of any condition of maintaining themselves (the merchantmen refusing them) otherwise [than] by their pensions out of the Chest³ and now and then a cook's place in his Majesty's ships as vacancies fall, and thereupon moving that it might be recommended to the Principal Secretaries of State that such cripple seamen (that is, such as have been rendered so in his Majesty's

¹ See 4th November.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1989.

³ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 139.

service) may be preferred before others in all hospitals, almshouses, etc., in his Majesty's gift ; The two Secretaries present were pleased to declare that the same had been already resolved by his Majesty, and that to the end the same may prove effectual to the seamen, they desire, and the Officers of the Navy are directed to cause, a list of the several seamen who have lost limbs in his Majesty's service to be prepared from the Governors of the Chest and presented to them, sorting their names according to the countries ¹ of their several abodes, to the end that as vacancies fall they may with greater benefit be bestowed upon seamen who live nearest to the hospitals or other places of support wherein any vacancy shall fall.

NOVEMBER 21, 1674

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty, by whose directions their Lordships met here this morning, being prevented in coming to the Board, their Lordships proceeded upon the following particulars :

A petition being read from the ropemakers some time since discharged out of his Majesty's works, wherein they complain that, by reason of great quantities of yarn ready spun and cordage ready made brought over from foreign parts, they and their families are likely to be undone for want of work wherewith to support themselves, and therefore pray that a stop might be put to the importation of any further quantities of foreign yarn and cordage ; RESOLVED, that the petition be presented to his Majesty in Council, and that Mr. Pepys take care that it be put into the hands of the Clerk attending there to be read the next Council day. *

A letter being read from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck signifying the late proceedings of the Tripoleeses in carrying two ships of his Majesty's subjects, the Martin and the Hunter, to Tripoli, the latter esteemed worth £30,000 ; Their Lordships RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys should attend his Majesty to-morrow at the Committee of Foreign Affairs, there to communicate the same and

¹ In the commonly used sense of 'counties.'

receive what directions his Majesty should upon debate think fit to give in that matter.¹

Their Lordships approve of the advice of the Officers of the Navy that the chirurgeon's mate of the Foresight might be spared thence to do the work of a chirurgeon upon the Vulture sloop, to be borne as one of the 10 men allowed her, the said chirurgeon being allowed the two-pences arising therefrom and a consideration at the end of the voyage for what medicaments he shall have found to have issued therein extraordinary; and it was ORDERED accordingly to be done.

The information given by the Officers of the Navy in their letter of the 17th instant touching the unfaithfulness of Captain Marshall,² late commander of the George fireship, in the bearing of one Samuel Griffin, a shipwright, from March unto September in victuals and wages, notwithstanding the said shipwright was all that time actually working in his Majesty's yard at Chatham and has received wages for the same, being read; Their Lordships RESOLVED, that [that] which the Officers of the Navy propounded of having his fault noted upon his name against his soliciting for any future employment was not satisfaction enough, notwithstanding the discovery proved so timely as to prevent his Majesty's suffering anything by the said fraud, but that he should be called to answer it yet before a court-martial, and ordered it accordingly.

A list of old provisions for sale approved.

A merchant sending in his desire to be heard in reference to the late passage at Tripoli, and accordingly having acquainted their Lordships with the same they had before understood from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, he was desired to perfect his intelligence in that matter as well as he could against to-morrow, and to attend his Majesty then with it at the Committee of Foreign Affairs.

Sir Thomas Bridges, Vice-Admiral of the City of Bristol and County of Somerset, presenting a petition to my Lords setting forth that the magistrates of the said City had of late, and particularly since the laying down of his Royal Highness's commission, taken upon them the

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1967.

² See *ib.*, No. 1962.

execution of the Vice-Admiral's jurisdiction within their liberties, and the same being debated, and therein Mr. Secretary Williamson informing the Board that the City of Bristol had long before this laid claim to the said jurisdiction within themselves; RESOLVED, that the matter be referred to the examination of Sir Leo[line] Jenkins,¹ to be by him reported back to their Lordships, on which they will then give Sir T. Bridges their answer to his petition.

The Navy Board's letter and the estimate touching the charge of shipping, etc., for the transporting of his Majesty's subjects from Surinam being read, the estimate was signed by their Lordships, and the matter referred to the Officers of the Navy speedily to consider and report their opinion touching the quantity and sorts of provisions advisable to be sent hence by the flyboats going thither for the victualling of 1200 men (the number supposed) in their said transportation from that island to Jamaica.

Mr. Pepys acquainting their Lordships that the business designed by his Majesty for the consideration of their Lordships this day (himself being present) was that of the present state of his Majesty's stores and ships, in order to the replenishing of the former and repairing of the latter, As also the determining what shall be the number of men to be declared for against the next year, in order to the seasonable issuing of a declaration for the victuals; Their Lordships thought fit to respite their considerations on those matters till his Majesty should be present.

The Navy Board's letter being read touching the case of Mr. Boyce, who is found by them to have greatly suffered in the postponing of a bill of his for the freight of a ship which, had it been entered in its course, had ere now been paid, and that loss of its course they own not to have arisen from any failure of his part; and their Lordships not finding it in their power to give him the present relief propounded by the Officers of the Navy of paying him part in ready money and entering the remainder for payment in course from this day, thought fit to commit it to Mr. Pepys to see whether the said Boyce may not be prevailed with to be contented with the whole in that

¹ Judge of the court of admiralty (*D. N. B.*, xxix. 302).

course, and to report to their Lordships what he shall prevail for with him therein.

The result of his Majesty's and their Lordships' last resolutions touching the business of the commanders now depending about the carrying of merchants' goods ¹ being put into writing and presented to the Board by Mr. Pepys in form of a letter to the Officers of the Navy, the same was read, approved of, and signed, and ordered to be forthwith despatched to the Navy Board.

Mr. Secretary Coventry enquiring of my Lords (at the instance of Señor Fonseca ² and for the satisfaction of the Count Monterey ³) how the case at present stood of the Ostend caper that had offered so many affronts to his Majesty in the case of Captain Carverth, ⁴ the said caper being now brought from the Isle of Wight to the Marshalsea, Mr. Pepys acquainted their Lordships that it had been judged a case deserving a strict inquiry, and triable nowhere but in the Court of Admiralty, and that for the sake of that cause among others a Commission of Oyer and Terminer was now in passing, so that as in a little time the caper would regularly come to receive his doom ; which their Lordships were well satisfied with, as being a provocation as full as has or can at any time happen for his Majesty to express his concernment in, for the honour of his flag and the ascertaining of his just dominion.

The King's bounty of £30 to Mrs. Burch, daughter of Boatswain Lindall, this day signed by the Lords.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's representation being read touching his pink the *Joseph*, taken and carried into Portolargon ⁵ by a Majorcan upon pretence of carrying of Jews' goods, and praying that the same may be recommended to the Secretaries of State for satisfaction to be demanded on his behalf from the King of Spain in the present case, and that the thing in general might also be taken notice of as a violence of general ill consequence to our trade in that sea ; Mr. Secretary Coventry informed

¹ See 14th November.

² Emmanuel de Fonseca was the Spanish consul at London.

³ Governor-general of the Spanish Netherlands.

⁴ 6th September.

⁵ Porto Longone, in Elba.

my Lords that the King had already wrote into Spain about it.

The Officers of the Navy taking notice of the Pearl's being ready to go abroad again, and the dissatisfaction her company is under for want of their pay, being about 26 months in arrear ; It was RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy should be directed to pay her as far as some other ships gone out have been contented to be, namely, to Michaelmas, 1673, And that his Majesty should be moved, at their next attending him, for his directions touching the taking off of the R¹ from some of her men who, contrary to command, or at least without leave, have taken the liberty of coming up to town from Sheerness to solicit for their pay.

Mr. Pepys acquainting my Lords with the difficulty he foresee[s] he should meet with in the matter their Lordships had lately committed to him of accommodating the matters in difference between the minister and shipwright's assistant at Chatham, as being (by what he judges from the attempt he already made in it) not likely to be obtained but by law, or the mediation of some person upon the place ; Their Lordships thought fit to refer it to Commissioner Beach, that, if it might be, the business may be composed without the charge of a lawsuit, and ORDERED the same to be accordingly referred.

Their Lordships, being informed by Mr. Pepys of the great damage this last storm had done to the harbour of Dover,² as the same had by this day's post been signified to him by the magistrates of that place, Were pleased to determine that they would particularly inquire what advance is made upon the business of the petition lately handed from their Lordships to the Council Board in favour of the said harbour, and to give it what reasonable furtherance they can.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1674

Mr. Pepys, according to their Lordships' directions yesterday, endeavouring to attend his Majesty at the

¹ See note on p. 43 above.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1966 ; for other references to the effects of the storm, see Nos. 1968, 1971, 1973, and 1974.

Committee of Foreign Affairs touching the business of Tripoli, as did also Mr. Buckworth¹ and about 7 more principal merchants of the Turkey Company who, in the name of the whole, came to inform the King in all they could yet learn of particulars touching that matter, But, no Committee meeting, the said merchants were conducted by Mr. Pepys to the King, who, shewing the extract of a letter from Livorne giving an account of two ships of the King's subjects, the Hunter and Martin (the former of them computed at £30,000), had been carried into Tripoli and there detained upon the pretence only that they had wrote to his Majesty but never yet received any letter from him in answer since the late change of the Government there, by which they thought themselves neglected and were under an uncertainty how far his Majesty did at this day hold himself bound by the last treaty ; His Majesty was thereupon pleased to declare that he does not remember any letter from that people since the change of Government, or that any letter of theirs had at any time failed of an answer, but that he had already of his own accord commissioned Sir John Narbrough, now upon his way thither (after he hath done at Argeir) to ratify the last peace, and that he would further do what should be held necessary at this time to be done for the satisfaction and security of the merchants ; Who proposing that a squadron of as many ships as could be got together of those abroad should be ordered to visit the place with Sir John Narbrough, his Majesty was pleased to promise his considering forthwith upon it, and thereupon directed Mr. Pepys to attend him again in the evening, which being done, his Royal Highness and Mr. Secretary Coventry present and the matter considered, Mr. Secretary Coventry was directed to prepare a letter to the Dey of Tripoli suitable to the occasion, and Mr. Pepys some new instructions for Sir John Narbrough,² directing him (contrary to what he was formerly) to carry all the ships with him from Argeir thither, there to offer a ratification of the treaty and insist upon a restitution of the vessels taken, and the same if possible to be done upon terms of honour, to compass amiably of them, but if it cannot be, to enter

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 928 and note.

² See *ib.*, No. 1967.

into hostility—The said letter and instructions to be prepared so as that to-morrow's post might not be lost for their conveyance.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1674

Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty in the morning with a draught of the instructions to Narbrough upon last night's resolutions, and the same by him read was approved on. Upon which his Majesty being, at the motion of Mr. Pepys, pleased to cause the Committee for Foreign Affairs to be forthwith summoned to attend him after dinner for the hearing and debating of the said paper, his Majesty was accordingly attended by

[*Names not filled in*]

at Mr. Secretary Coventry's lodgings, where the said paper was accordingly read, debated, and fully approved of (with the addition only of Sir John Narbrough's taking the advice of Mr. Brisbane,¹ and being directed to use all fair means of satisfying the people of Tripoli by argument for preventing a rupture with them, if it can be obtained without dishonour) and ordered to be presently prepared fair by Mr. Pepys for the King's signing, That is to say, three copies of them to be sent, by the like number of letters to be prepared by Mr. Secretary Coventry to the Government of Tripoli, to be sent away by this night's post—one by the way of Cadiz, another by that of Marseilles, and the third by Livorne—which accordingly was done, and delivered into the Secretary's office in the evening, from whence they were the same post dispatched away with his Majesty's said letters.

NOVEMBER 28, 1674

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Navy Officers attending.]

A paper being brought to his Majesty and my Lords by the Commissioners for Sick and Wounded Seamen,

¹ Judge-advocate; he was accompanying Narbrough on his voyage.

representing the state of the arrear due and the distressed condition of many poor creditors to whom the said arrear remains unsatisfied upon the account of their Commission,¹ the said Commissioners were directed to attend the Lord Treasurer (to whom the consideration of that affair was at the same time committed) bringing with them their advice in what method the satisfaction of the said debt and the people concerned therein may be obtained with most ease to his Majesty in reference to the times and proportions of its payment.

Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty and my Lords more particularly in what he had more generally mentioned at their last meeting touching the provisions already made by the rules of the navy for the obliging the standing officers of his Majesty's ships, viz., boatswains and gunners, to the taking of no servants upon any other terms than by way of indenture, as their apprentices for seven years,—producing a copy of the rules established on that behalf by the Officers of the Navy in their warrants to the several clerks of the check, bearing date the 10th June, 1663; It was RESOLVED, that the said rules should now be revived,² and that towards the doing of it the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy should be directed to consider how far the said rules may be improved by any additional cautions to be used therein.

The business of the ship *Caugh of Pernambuco*,³ a Dutch prize brought into Yarmouth some time since by a French privateer, being thoroughly opened, It was RESOLVED, that the said prize should be left at liberty to be carried away by the said caper, upon bond taken in the Court of Admiralty in £500 from Mr. Chandler, merchant at Yarmouth, for his making good to the proprietors for whatever goods shall be found to have been disposed of by him out of the said prize over and above those already acknowledged by him upon oath and contained in an account this day presented to my Lords by Monsieur Dennis in behalf of the said caper.

RESOLVED, that the harbour wages of the standing

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 135-6.

² MS. 'received.'

³ MS. 'Phernambucq.' The margin reads 'Phernambuck' and 'Phernamburg.'

officers of the King's ships, while they remain in ordinary, be raised to the same they receive at sea, in the same manner as the common men's were lately raised,¹ . . . for their better encouragement in the well looking after his Majesty's ships while in harbour.

Mr. Pepys taking notice of the Hunter's long stay abroad since her departure from the Downs with convoys towards Ostend, to the rendering her safety doubtful by reason of the late storms, and the service whereto she is at her return appointed of carrying the King's Commissioners to Surinam calling for all dispatch to be made in the fitting of the ship to be sent on that service, and thereupon his Majesty's pleasure being asked whether another ship should be thought on for answering that occasion ; He was pleased to resolve that we should yet stay a post or two in expectation of tidings of her, and that if in that time she should not be heard of, another ship should be appointed.

Mr. Pepys acquainting their Lordships with what his Majesty had done on Monday last in reference to the Governor of Tripoli, which his Majesty opened the occasion of.

There was also propounded to consideration the report of the Navy Officers touching the state of the hulls of all his Majesty's ships, what the money, materials, and time required for the repair thereof ; As also a paper of Commissioner Deane's lately shewn to my Lords by Mr. Speaker, being a copy of a letter of the said Commissioner's to the Lord Treasurer upon that subject. Which his Majesty was pleased to respite to another time to be appointed for the debate of that particular business and no other.

The like for the victualling declaration for the ensuing year.

Mr. Pepys informing the Board in the complaint generally made by the commanders of the few ships of late set forth touching the ill manning of their ships by the numbers of extraordinary midshipmen granted by his Majesty,² who are above the performance of the seaman's ordinary labour, as having been formerly com-

¹ See 30th June and 3rd July.

² See 14th November.

manders and lieutenants (to whom alone this allowance of extraordinary midshipmen is now restrained), as also of volunteers, who are neither able nor skilful enough to do the seamen's work, by which means, and the low complements of men in time of peace, the labour of the ship becomes too much to be performed by the small number of the true-bred seamen remaining on board the said ships ; His Majesty, with the advice of my Lords, and upon the Navy Officers declaring, as they had lately done it also in writing, that in the low complements assigned for time of peace, Was pleased to RESOLVE, that from henceforward all extraordinary midshipmen and volunteers who were placed upon any of his Majesty's ships by special warrant from himself (and no other) should be borne as supernumeraries¹ on board the several ships on which they serve, and Mr. Pepys was directed from time to time to see the same notified to the Officers of the Navy and commanders of his Majesty's ships as occasion should require it.

RESOLVED also, for the further encouragement and employment of such as have served his Majesty in the late war, and are now destitute of employment and likely so to continue during the peace, That from henceforward a lieutenant be allowed to every 5th-rate ship (even during peace) that shall be employed upon a foreign voyage, and no other.

A petition of Mr. Alderman Aste and several other merchants of London being read and they heard, wherein they pray speedy payment, or at least allowance for interest during their remaining unsatisfied, for hemp and other goods by them sold to the navy at prices (as they say) very low, upon promise of ready money said by the said Officers to be at that time actually in their disposal ; His Majesty was pleased to recommend the same to my Lord Treasurer, who took notice to his Majesty of the present case so far as to tell him that it did already lie with the Committee of Foreign Affairs, where the matter would speedily be heard.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy of the [blank] being read, in answer to another to them from my Lords

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1969 and 1997.

touching the requisiteness of having some known mark of distinction publicly made use of in the Downs for the distinguishing all other his Majesty's men-of-war from her who not wearing of a flag was yesterday appointed to command in chief there¹; His Majesty and my Lords were pleased to approve of the distinction propounded by the said Officers, and RESOLVED that the same should accordingly be put to execution.

A proposition being read from Mr. Baylie, the shipwright at Bristol, of undertaking to build several ships for his Majesty there upon terms of being paid for the same out of the timber in his Majesty's Forest of Dean, The consideration of it was referred to the Officers of the Navy, and to report their opinion therein to my Lords.

RESOLVED also, upon the petition of Mr. Idle, that whereas the ship Bachelor is now brought about from Plymouth into the river of Thames, the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights should be forthwith writ to, to cause the goods on board the said ship to be inventoried and equally appraised, in order to the satisfaction of the said Idle.

His Majesty being pleased to inquire after the advance made in the building of the two small ships lately ordered to be contracted for by Commissioner Deane,² and being informed that the same was under a stop for want of the money to be advanced upon the said contracts; His Majesty was pleased to recommend the speedy payment of the said money to my Lord Treasurer.

Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty and my Lords, from a letter from Captain Perriman at Sheerness, of the great hardships the officers and servants of the navy do lie under there³ from the Governor's imposing upon them the persons from whom alone they shall be at liberty to supply themselves with meat and drink within the said garrison, and his Majesty expressing his great dislike of

¹ Captain Royden, commander of the Guernsey, had just been appointed commander-in-chief in the Downs (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 1955). On the question of a 'mark of distinction,' see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1956, and minute of 14th November above.

² See 24th October.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1973. Captain John Perriman was master attendant at Sheerness.

the same; It was RESOLVED, that the examination of the particulars should be referred to the Officers of the Navy,¹ to be by them examined and reported to their Lordships.

NOVEMBER 30, 1674

Memorandum. That upon a paper brought to Mr. Pepys this evening from Mr. Secretary Coventry, containing the heads of some resolutions this day taken by his Majesty at the Committee for Foreign Affairs upon some letters this day come to hand from Tripoli, with directions to Mr. Pepys to prepare suitable instructions for his Majesty's signing, so as that the same may be dispatched away by this night's post; Instructions were accordingly prepared, and after perusal thereof had by Mr. Secretary Coventry and by him approved of as agreeable to his Majesty's said resolutions, they were presented to the King and signed by him. . . .

[*Marginal note* : ' *Vide* the original paper of heads lodged among the miscellaneous papers.']

DECEMBER 5, 1674

[*Present* : Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Navy Officers attending.]

The draught presented to my Lords from Sir Leo[line] Jenkins of the Commission of Oyer and Terminer being read, and several notes taken thereon; The same were ORDERED to be observed from their Lordships to Sir Leo[line] Jenkins by Mr. Pepys, and his answer received thereto before the Commission be passed.

The late state of the hulls of his Majesty's ships, as also of his stores, and the time and money required for the repair of the former and replenishing of the latter, As also Commissioner Deane's particular considerations thereon, directed to my Lord Treasurer,² being read; It was RESOLVED, that a general representation of the whole

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1984 and 2020.

² A document dated 12th October, 1674, for which see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 43.

be prepared as soon as may be, to be delivered to his Majesty for the thorough informing him in the present condition of the navy, and the guiding him thereby to such considerations conducing to the bettering thereof as his Majesty shall then think expedient.

RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys attend his Majesty to-morrow at the Committee of Foreign Affairs to open to him the case of the Ostend caper who lately offered the indignities to his Majesty in not striking to the Woolwich sloop, Captain Carverth commander, and taking away his convoy from him.

An Order of Council being read, referring to my Lords the consideration of a petition lately presented to his Majesty in Council from several ropemakers¹. . . It was referred to the Officers of the Navy to examine into the truth and reason of their said complaints and the ground thereof, conferring therein with some of the ablest East Country merchants, master ropemakers, and others, and thereupon to report their opinions on the whole to my Lords.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy being read, wherein they inform my Lords that 2 flyboats are not to be found sufficient for the doing the work intended for them of transporting the persons and effects of his Majesty's subjects from Surinam,² and thereupon advise that they may be at liberty to hire other ships,³ which they say may be had more convenient and proportionably as cheap; The same was agreed to by my Lords, as also the quantity and sorts of provisions by them propounded to be sent to Surinam.

The case of Captain Wyborne, late commander of the *Guarland*, being read, whereby it appears upon an ample certificate from the committee of the Royal Company⁴ that several goods^o belonging to that Company were at their desire brought home by the said Captain Wyborne from the Barbados, as being taken out of a ship of theirs which, being unable by leakiness to keep above water, had perished with the said goods, to the utter loss of both, if the said Captain Wyborne had not at the instance of

¹ See 21st November.

² See 4th November.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 1991.

⁴ I.e., the Royal African Company.

their factors been prevailed with to take them in. It was ORDERED, that Captain Wyborne should be excused from any penalty for bringing home the said goods, That is to say, those goods, and those only, which he so took in on behalf of the said Royal Company, and no other.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck attending, and my Lords being informed by Mr. Pepys that my Lord Treasurer had now dispatched the said Sir T. C. by his assent to the draught of the contract prepared by the Officers of the Navy and transmitted by my Lords to my Lord Treasurer for his approval,¹ it being for Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's undertaking the victualling of all his Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean; my Lords recommended it to the Officers of the Navy to give Sir T. Clutterbuck all possible dispatch in all other matters depending before them relating to him, in order to his returning to Livorne as soon as may be, in expectation of what occasions of service to his Majesty may arise there upon the ruptures which may possibly happen between his Majesty and the Governments of Argeir and Tripoli.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck shewing to my Lords the many complaints he had received from his correspondents at Livorne for the want of passes,² by which the vessels of his Majesty's subjects (surprised by the late proceedings of the Argereens and Tripolyeses) are exposed to great danger in the Straits upon meeting of any Turks' men-of-war; It was RESOLVED by their Lordships, that Sir Thomas Clutterbuck be supplied by Mr. Pepys with passes in such number and manner as he alleges his having been heretofore trusted therewith by his Royal Highness.

It being noted that the Council sitting now on Wednesdays in the morning, It was RESOLVED, that my Lords will from henceforward meet precisely at $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour past 8, in order to their dispatching of their business here before Council.

Upon a petition of Captain Joseph Harris, shewing and proving, by annexed certificate from Sir John Kempthorne and Captain Archer, that being commander of his Majesty's fireship the Ann and Judith in the last war against the Dutch, he, among other good performances,

¹ See 23rd May. *

² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. pp. xviii.-xix.

did actually board and fastened his grapnels upon De Ruyter's second, and there fired his said ship,¹ Which, though the enemy were so fortunate as to discharge themselves off, yet it appearing to my Lords that he had performed all that was to be done in such an undertaking, they thought fit to declare Captain Harris's right to the bounty allowed to commanders of fireships in the case of burning of an enemy's ship, and ORDERED, that he should receive the same accordingly by a warrant to be sent to the Officers of the Navy to that purpose.

Mr. Marlow, the Messenger of the Navy, attending by order, with one Mason at whose suit Robert Cutler, purser of the Royal Oak, was lately arrested without leave of my Lords, and the said Mason being called in and declaring that at the time of the arrest he did not know of the said Cutler's relation to the navy, and it appearing that as soon as he had notice given him of their Lordships' commands concerning him he did immediately give order for the discharge of the said Cutler, and now desiring their Lordships' pardon for his error therein; Their Lordships were pleased forthwith to discharge him, upon promise of appearing again when called, and the Messenger was ordered to continue to look out for the bailiff who undertook for and executed the arrest upon the said Cutler, and bring him before their Lordships as he is already by their warrant directed.

Upon application made this day to my Lords on behalf of the master, Thomas Jarman, and the rest of the owners of the Ann ketch, employed within the late war for the transporting of soldiers over to Dieppe, and taken by the enemy in his return, the state of which case was reported from the Officers of the Navy to my Lords in March last; Their Lordships, being satisfied in the reasonable pretences of the said owners to satisfaction from his Majesty for the value of the said ketch, RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy should be ordered to make them out a bill for the same, payable by the Treasurer of the Navy, upon evidence first given them of the just value of the said ketch at the time of her capture.

¹ This exploit is not recorded in Charnock, *Biographia Navalis*.

DECEMBER 6, 1674

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

His Majesty being this day attended (by yesterday's direction of the Lords) by Mr. Pepys, for the offering to him the consideration of the number of men to be now declared for the next year's summer and winter's services, and the present number of ships abroad with their stations, and the principal heads of the next year's certain services being opened by Mr. Pepys, his Majesty, upon debate of the whole with my Lords, agreed upon the several measures by which the number of men so to be declared for were computed, and committed the same to Mr. Pepys to draw up in method, to be presented to him for confirmation at his next meeting with the Lords of the Admiralty.

The business also of Captain Carverth, late commander of the Woolwich sloop, being opened to his Majesty by Mr. Pepys, and the several papers relating thereto read, as well those of Captain Carverth's as the narrative of the Ostend caper who is now in the Marshalsea for the indignity lately offered by him to his Majesty in not striking to his Majesty's flag but demanding of Captain Carverth his striking to the King of Spain's colours, as also forcing the said Captain Carverth to brace his headsails to the mast, and, lastly, the searching and carrying away to Ostend an English vessel then under his convoy; His Majesty was pleased to order Mr. Pepys to attend him in Council on Wednesday next with the said papers and all parties concerned, in order to his determining there touching the method fit to be taken for the full and regular examining and determining that matter.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1674

Memorandum. That his Majesty being accordingly attended in Council by Mr. Pepys with the said papers and persons—That is to say, Captain Carverth and 5 or 6 of his officers and company, with the Ostend caper accom-

panied with Señor Fonseca¹—The said papers were there read, and the matter referred by Order of Council to be tried in due form in the High Court of Admiralty.

DECEMBER 12, 1674

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Keeper; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Sir Leo. Jenkins² attended his Majesty and my Lords to debate the properest method of proceeding against the Ostend caper concerned in the affront lately offered his Majesty in the case of Captain Carverth,³ and after Sir Leoline⁴ Jenkins opening at large the particular conveniences or inconveniences of the several ways propounded of doing the same, It was concluded as the most solemn, regular, safe, effectual (as being free from any appeal), and most expeditious, that it be done by the Commission of Oyer and Terminer; and RESOLVED, that it should accordingly be so done, and that for the greater ease of finding a proper and substantial jury (forasmuch as the same is to consist of half foreigners) it be held within the City of London. To which purpose the Lord Mayor is to be spoke with that the said Commission may accordingly be held in the City, and the care thereof committed to my Lord Privy Seal.

Mr. Pepys presenting to his Majesty and my Lords his calculations of the number of men proper to be declared for the service of the summer and winter's guard and the quantity of provisions needful for the same, and the bringing in such ships as are and must necessarily for some time remain abroad after the 1st of January above what is assigned for the said summer and winter guard, the same being computed by measures lately agreed on by his Majesty at the Committee of Foreign Affairs, and the particulars thereof now read and debated, the whole was approved of, amounting to 2551 men for the year round, and directions given to Mr. Pepys to attend with

¹ See note on p. 95 above.

² Judge of the admiralty court; see *D. N. B.*, xxix. 302.

³ See 6th and 9th December.

⁴ MS. 'Leonell.'

the same for confirmation at the next sitting of the Council Board.

Several letters read, and particularly one from Sir John Narbrough of the 25th of November from Cadiz signifying his being then under sail with the money, and several of his Majesty's ships in company, bound for Argier for the redemption of the captives there and confirmation of that treaty.

Another of the 9th of December from Captain Belbin, intimating his arrival at Plymouth with his Majesty's ship the Sweepstakes from the Straits.

Another from Captain Wetwang of the 2nd November from Malaga¹ Road, intimating his arrival there with the Newcastle and Success, and giving an account of the undue proceedings of the Spaniards upon a ship of his Majesty's subjects of the same kind with the other lately complained of touching the Majorcans² carrying in a pink of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's, for which his Majesty had demanded satisfaction already, and according to the answer he receives thereto will proceed to do the like in the present case.

A petition of Captain Langley's of Harwich³ being read, desiring warrant for his being reimbursed what by directions from my Lord Arlington he had laid out during the late war for the bringing over his Majesty's subjects prisoners from Holland, which disbursements of his have been stated and allowed of by the Lord Arlington, as was now signified to his Majesty by Mr. Secretary Williamson; It was RESOLVED, that the same, amounting to £122 18s. 6d., be allowed of, and the Officers of the Navy directed to make him out a bill and see him satisfied for the same.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy being read, stating the case of the ground to be purchased by his Majesty for the enlarging what is already his own for the more commodious rebuilding of his Office of the Navy the whole of the purchase money amounting to £3464 15s., and the charge of building estimated at £10,471, with the proposals of the said Officers how the said moneys may be supplied them with most ease to his Majesty, so as that the work may be finished within the next year;

¹ MS. 'Malago.'

² MS. 'May Yorkekeens.'

³ Captain Langley was master of the packet-boats at Harwich.

the whole was committed to the consideration of my Lord Treasurer, with directions to Mr. Pepys to attend his Lordship thereon.

Upon intimation given that the Company of the Watermen rowing upon the river of Thames are upon renewing their charter, It was AGREED, that a *caveat* be put into the Privy Seal Office that the Officers of the Navy and the Master, Wardens, and Assistants of the Trinity House be heard thereto before the same be passed.

A letter being read from the Commissioners of the Admiral's Rights in the case of Captain Idle, their advice is approved of for the landing of the goods out of the Bachelor and putting them into warehouses, before the said Idle receive the portion thereof designed him by his Majesty.

DECEMBER 16, 1674

[*Present*: Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

Memorandum. That this day Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty in Council, according to order,¹ with a memorial for the declaration of the number of men to be provided for, for the next year's service, the same was accordingly passed, amounting to 2551 men for the year round; the said memorial, and project on which the same was grounded, entered in the estimate book.

DECEMBER 19, 1674

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Sir Leoline Jenkins and Navy Officers attending.]

Upon debate had on occasion of some complaints brought to Mr. Secretary Coventry touching the denial of justice to some of his Majesty's subjects interested in ships carried into Ostend, and thereupon appealing for right to his Majesty, Sir Leo. Jenkins was directed to draw up such a form of demand as may enable those who are appointed by his Majesty to solicit for right on behalf of his subjects concerned at that place to ask all that is

¹ See 12th December.

needful for the enlightening the Judge and other the officers of his Majesty's Admiralty here in the method and reasonableness of the proceedings of the Admiralty Court there, and direct us in our methods of excepting against the same and demanding remedy therein. *Memorandum*: That the papers relating to the particular cases in present question were brought by and remain in the hands of Mr. Secretary Coventry.

Sir Leo[line] Jenkins presenting to my Lords a draught prepared by him to be signed by their Lordships for the impanelling of juries and summoning of Commissioners, and publishing the time to be appointed for the executing the present Commission of Oyer and Terminer¹ for the Admiralty, the same was read and approved of. The 7th January next was also pitched upon for the day. AGREED also, that forasmuch as the said Commission was to be held in London, it was fit as well as decent that the Recorder of the City should be added to the Commission, and left to be done in such manner as the Secretaries of State should find proper. Moreover, Sir Leo[line] Jenkins informing my Lords that convenient room would hardly be found in Doctors' Commons for answering all the occasions of this Commission, such as for holding of the gaol, locking up the juries, etc., and propound[ing] that the King might have the use of the Sessions House in the Old Bailey, Mr. Pepys was directed to speak with the Sheriffs of London concerning the same.

A memorial from the Dutch Ambassador being read, complaining that a French privateer, having taken and carried to Yarmouth 2 herring-vessels belonging to the subjects of the States-General, is raising of English seamen there for the carrying of the said prizes to France, and thereupon desiring, in pursuance of the 21st article of the Treaty at Breda, that orders may be given for the hindering the said privateer from taking any of the King's subjects into the said service; Their Lordships agreed thereto, and directed that orders should be prepared accordingly.

Mr. Pepys reading to my Lords a letter of Captain

¹ See 12th December.

Wood's to him,¹ and another of one Appleby's to one Mr. Bryan (brought to him by Captain Darcy), the former complaining that upon the 3rd instant off of Falmouth he in the Bonadventure had met with 2 French men-of-war which, being very clean, out-sailed him, and would not strike their topsails notwithstanding he had fired 12 or 13 guns at the nearest of them; the latter of the inhumane usage he had received from 2 small frigates at Biscay in his way from Bordeaux to Lisbon, the one belonging to St. Sebastian, the other to Fontrave²—beating him with a billet till he was a[s] black as ink, and then binding him to a post and making him sit down with his face to a hot fire and then putting pieces of linen cloth dipped in brimstone under his nose till they forced him to a confession; tying his mate's head to a post with a sharp cord which they twisted with a stick about his forehead; and then carrying them into Sebastian, where they were kept prisoners 15 days, from whence being afterwards discharged they were labouring to get a passage home from Byam³—Mr. Pepys was ordered to endeavour the informing himself more particularly in the particulars in each case, and to represent the same to his Majesty at their next attending him.

An Order of Council of the 16th instant was read, declaring 2551 men to be the number to be provided for, for the service of his Majesty the next year, and directing an estimate of the charge of the victuals for the said men to be forthwith prepared. Whereupon it was RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy be directed to prepare an estimate accordingly, with the addition of wages, wear, and tear for the said number.

Mr. Pepys being asked, and thereupon giving an account of what he had done towards the representation directed to be drawn up by him of the present state of the navy, he was ordered to present the same, in as perfect a manner as he can finish it, in upon Wednesday next.

Mr. Secretary Coventry delivering to my Lords the petition of Captain Griffith Standen, late Provost-

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2048.

² Fuenterrabia, near San Sebastian, on the Bay of Biscay.

³ Presumably Bayonne.

Marshal of the Fleet, and signifying therewith his Majesty's pleasure that out of his Royal grace and charity to the said Standen, in consideration of his former services and suffering therein and for his support under his present poverty, his prayer in his said petition be granted for his being allowed the pay of provost-marshal from the 3rd of April '73 to the 7th of July following (the date of his commission for the said office), he having alleged as well his having served his Majesty at sea that whole time, and part thereof in the quality of provost-marshal without the said commission, and moreover that there was no other provost-marshal borne in the fleet within that time.

It was ORDERED, that the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy, satisfying themselves first in the truth of the matter of fact, do, by bill on the Treasurer of the Navy to be issued on that behalf, cause what has already been paid to the said Captain Standen as an ordinary seaman to be made up to him the full pay of provost-marshal from the said 3rd of April to the said 7th of July.

A memorial being delivered to my Lords by my Lord Privy Seal, in behalf of Captain Rooth and some of his officers and company removed with him from the *Lion* into the *Swiftsure*, relating to some arrears of pay due to them on that account, As also upon 2 bills for his Majesty's allowance to him for volunteers—the one upon the *Victory* in 1672, the other upon the *Swiftsure*, 1674—and their Lordships being in particular inclined to the present satisfying of the debt upon the *Swiftsure*, in regard that the same ought to have been paid with the ship, and that it arose from no failure in him and his company (who were removed with him from the *Lion*) that it was not so paid; They were pleased to refer it to the Officers of the Navy to cause¹ the same to be forthwith paid in such manner as they shall judge least prejudicial to their present course of payment and the credit thereof.

A privy seal being presented to my Lords this day by the two Vandevells² the painters (father and son) confirming their present pensions of £100 each per annum

¹ MS. 'accuse.'

² On the two Van de Veldes, see *D. N. B.* lviii. 103.

to remain during pleasure for the service they are employed in by his Majesty of drawing and painting of sea-ships; **RESOLVED**, that order be prepared by the Secretary of the Admiralty to the Officers of the Navy pursuant thereto.

A petition of one Randolph Poulson being read, complaining of wrong done him by a seizure unduly made on a vessel of his in the river of Thames by the Sheriff or Under-Sheriff of Surrey, to the invading the Admiral's jurisdiction; **RESOLVED**, that the Under-Sheriff, John Foster, on whom in particular the petitioner in discourse did lay his complaint for the said violence, be summoned to attend their Lordships at their next meeting.

DECEMBER 23, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

A petition being read from several of the ship's company of the Bachelor, some time since brought away from Cadiz by stratagem, William Idle master, complaining of the said Idle's indirect proceedings to the defrauding of them by taking to himself the whole benefit of his Majesty's gratuity to him and the company in reward for the said action, and desiring that care may be taken by my Lords for the securing on their behalf their share of the said gratuity; **RESOLVED**, that the same shall be laid before his Majesty and his pleasure taken therein before any order be given for the payment of the £1800 which his Majesty has been pleased to declare his purpose of giving the said Idle on this account.

A petition at the same time being also read from one Michael Baptista, desiring some reward for his faithfulness in a discovery pretended to be by him made of a design in the persons above-named to have run away with the said Bachelor prize after her arrival at Plymouth; **RESOLVED**, that a letter be writ to the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights (to whom he pretends to have made this discovery) for information touching the truth of the same and the benefit his Majesty has received thereby.

A letter likewise being read from Mr. Fowell, Vice-Admiral of Devonshire, wherein he desires some consideration extraordinary for his pains and care in the securing the said prize at Plymouth; RESOLVED, That the same shall be considered when the accounts of his disbursements (which he promises suddenly to send up) shall be examined, and the effects of his extraordinary care and trouble shall appear.

The draught of the present state of the affairs of the navy (prepared by the late directions of the Lords) being read, was approved of, and directed to be wrote fair against their next sitting (which is adjourned to the first Wednesday after Christmas), with the addition by way of preface of the state of his Majesty's naval force when the Lords first entered upon his Commission, to shew his Majesty the difference between that and what it is now, and how the same has arisen.

Mr. Foster, Under-Sheriff of Surrey, attending by order upon the petition of Poulson complaining that a vessel of his had been unduly seized on by the said Foster in the river of Thames near the Tower of London and within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty, whereto the said Foster answering by his counsel (among other things) that the said vessel, though in the river of Thames as is alleged, did not nevertheless ride at the time of her capture within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty but *intra corpus comitatus* either of Kent or Middlesex, according to the side of the River on which she lay; Their Lordships adjourned the consideration of the matter to this day seven night, against which time the King's Advocate is to be directed to attend for ascertaining the Admiral's jurisdiction in the River, and the witnesses summoned whose names either party respectively should bring in to the Secretary of the Admiralty to that purpose.

Mr. Pollexfen the merchant attending, and in excuse for arresting Mr. Cox, purser of the Eagle, pleading his ignorance of the said Cox's present relation to the navy, and shewing that upon his being informed thereof he did forthwith discharge him; Their Lordships were satisfied therewith, directing Mr. Marlow the Messenger forthwith to discharge him, Offering also upon his petition

to that purpose to give their order to the said Cox to satisfy him his debt within a certain time, or that upon his failure therein he should be left to be prosecuted at law. Their Lordships directed Mr. Pepys to send his usual notification hereof to the said Cox, and taking this occasion of resolving in general, That Mr. Pepys do from time to time hereafter (as any applications shall be made to the Lords by petition for leave of suing any persons employed in his Majesty's service) take care of signifying the same in their names forthwith to the parties concerned, and he report to their Lordships their answer or failure in answering, in order to their giving further directions therein.

Their Lordships in like manner were pleased to excuse one Worman a bailiff, pleading ignorance (as being newly come into his place) in his late arresting of Cutler, purser of the Royal Oak, at the suit of one Mason.

The report of the Officers of the Navy of the 10th instant being read, in the case of George Pley of Weymouth, merchant, wherein the said Pley demands satisfaction for damage by him sustained to the value of £1350 6s. upon bills of exchange forced to be re-drawn by him through failure on his Majesty's part of making him payment according to contract for sail-cloth by him delivered to the value of about £70,000 in the year 1665 for the use of the navy, Upon which their Lordships considering the consequences of the precedent should they take upon them the satisfying all the claims that might be made for loss sustained by untimely payment of tradesmen whilst at the same time also so much remains at this day unsatisfied to many of the very principal due to them for goods served in ; It was judged a matter unfit for them to comply with the pretences and desires of the present clamour in, and therefore respited the consideration thereof till they shall speak with the said Mr. Pley or his order concerning it.

Upon Mr. Pepys offering to their Lordships' consideration the charge he was during the last summer necessarily at in attending the King from day to day as the business of the Navy and Admiralty required while the Court was out of town, and that he is for the time to come subject to the like charges of travelling as often

as the King's absence or his or their Lordships' commands shall require it ; It was RESOLVED, that the same allowance of travelling charges should be made to Mr. Pepys on the service past and to come, and in the same manner, as is usually made to any of the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy travelling on his Majesty's service, and that an order should be directed to the said Officers of the Navy authorising them to make out bills from time to time to the said Mr. Pepys or the Treasurer of the Navy accordingly.

Mr. Pepys observing to their Lordships that, notwithstanding his Majesty's and their late resolutions and orders,¹ very few of the commanders had yet (as he had understood) adjusted with the Officers of the Navy for the freight of the merchants' goods by them lately brought home in his Majesty's ships, or had appeared to the said Officers in order thereto ; RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy be directed to send to their Lordships the names of such of the said commanders as have adjusted with them for the same and the value thereof, in order to their taking some further course for the compelling the rest to do the like, by bringing them to a court-martial or otherwise.

Several letters read, informing their Lordships in the proceedings of his Majesty's ships abroad.

A petition read from the carpenters of his Majesty's ships, praying, and urging several arguments, that they may be borne on board his Majesty's ships in harbour as the rest of the standing officers are, the health and safety of the ships as to their hulls, masts, etc., calling first (wherein they appeal to the damage which has been found to arise to the one and the other from the want of it) ; RESOLVED, that the same be referred to the consideration of the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy for reporting their opinion and advice therein.

Upon the petition of Merry, Newton, and Westrey, setting forth that it was at their cost² and by their instigation that the misbehaviours of several of the officers and workmen of his Majesty's yard at Woolwich were discovered by Ward, to whom alone they find the

¹ See 14th November.

² MS. 'as their coast.'

£100 given as a reward for the said discovery is assigned, through his injurious taking to himself the merit of the said discovery, and therefore praying that Ward may not receive the said money but that the same be given to them; **RESOLVED**, that the Officers of the Navy be directed to forbear the payment of the said money to Ward until he be heard by their Lordships to this petition.

A petition being read from the master-joiner, house-carpenter, and bricklayer of his Majesty's yards of Deptford and Woolwich, praying for an increase of salary or some other encouragement answerable to what are enjoyed by the like officers in some others of the King's yards; **ANSWERED**, That the King's work being now small, and at no time more than what it was or was to be foreseen at the time of their entering into the said employments, they could have no present reason to claim nor his Majesty to grant the said petition.

Upon a petition of John Gamble, who lost both his arms in fight the 11th of August 1673, for the cook's place of the Sweepstakes; **RESOLVED**, that Mr. Pepys do move his Majesty on behalf of the petitioner for the said employment against the ship goes to sea, and that in the mean time he be in particular recommended to the Officers of the Navy for a berth in one of the ships which shall be abroad, as soon as the late establishment in that case will admit.

Upon the petition of James Davis, who lost all the lower part of his face in the engagement 28 May 1672, in consideration whereof his Majesty has bestowed on him the cook's place of the Royal Oak; and now praying that, forasmuch as he is not able to eat sea-biscuit or meat, he may be excused from duty wholly or permitted to execute the same by a sufficient deputy; **ORDERED**, that the Officers of the Navy be directed to allow the petitioner to perform his duty by a deputy to be by them approved on accordingly.

Captain Carverth petitioning for a speedy trial, and that he may be allowed for his charge in keeping his witnesses in town; **ANSWERED**, that the 7th January is designed for the day of trying his business at the Commission of Oyer and Terminer for the Admiralty to be

held at the Old Bailey, and that the consideration of his charges shall be had according to the issue of the said trial.

Upon the petition of Mary Hoffin, widow of William Hoffin, the gunner of the [*blank*], and killed in the engagement upon 28 May '72; RESOLVED, That the Officers of the Navy be directed to make out a bill to the said widow of the gunner of the said ship, provided ¹ that she ² first make it appear to them that, as she alleges, he had been taken from his said employment as gunner of the said ship to serve his Majesty as assistant to Colonel Streeter in the quality of an engineer of fireworks,³ and that he did actually serve his Majesty in that capacity at the time of his being killed on board the Fairfax under the command of Captain Legge.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1674

[At the Committee of Foreign Affairs. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys attending by command, with the letters from the Dey ⁴ and Consul of Argier read, giving an account of the quiet state of affairs between his Majesty and that Government, and the likelihood of their continuance so in case his Majesty would be pleased to condescend to them in one point—viz., in that of forbidding his subjects to serve or sail in any foreign ships in enmity with them, which they have hitherto been found frequently to do, and have nevertheless been from time to time set at liberty, though with great discontent to the militia ⁵ of the place. Upon which account it is that they desire this condition now of his Majesty, offering to extend only to such as shall serve in pay on foreign ships, not including those who shall go only as passengers with certificate from any minister or officer of his Majesty's whose hand is known to our Consul there, which passes

¹ MS. 'proved.'

² MS. 'the.'

³ On Colonel John Streeter's experiments with these, see *D. N. B.* lv. 40.

⁴ MS. 'Dye.'

⁵ *I.e.*, the military administration.

shall be of force for the securing both their persons and goods.

Which proposition of theirs appearing very reasonable to his Majesty and my Lords, It was committed to Mr. Secretary Williamson to prepare an article conformable thereto, to be sent thither as soon as may be, and in the mean time to provide a letter to that Government, to go from his Majesty by to-morrow's post, signifying to them in general his receipt of their last letter and purpose of complying with them in what they desire as to that article.

Upon which Mr. Pepys humbly noting to his Majesty that it might be considered whether it might not be to the prejudice of the shipping of England if we should take the benefit of the Argereens' offer to the utmost extent of the words wherein the translation of it seems to express it, viz., by the word *Goods*, which may probably serve for the tempting his Majesty's subjects to make use of foreign shipping with merchandise from port to port within the Straits, And therefore humbly propounding whether it were not advisable to limit the word *Goods* to necessary baggage only; His Majesty and my Lords were pleased to approve thereof, and RESOLVED, that the terms of the article should limit it accordingly.

It was moved also by Mr. Pepys out of the Consul of Argier's letter to him, that the Government of Tangier for the time being might be directed from time to time to see all fitting respect and friendship shewn to any ships and vessels of Argier which shall happen to put into that place, as has hitherto been until a little before and since the death of the late Earl of Middleton,¹ the civility of that people everywhere to ours requiring it; His Majesty was pleased to approve thereof also, and a note taken of it by Mr. Secretary Williamson.

DECEMBER 30, 1674

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

The draught of the present state of the navy directed by the Lords to be prepared for his Majesty's view ² was

¹ Formerly governor of Tangier.

² See 5th December.

presented to their Lordships by Mr. Pepys, and approved with an addition only to be made to it of the difference to be expressly shewn between the number of ships and vessels now in being and what it was at their Lordships' entering upon this Commission, and how the said difference arises.

RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy be writ to for the directing them to finish forthwith their reports in the several points referred to them by my Lords yet unanswered. And that this be done so as that after their Lordships receiving the same, they may visit the Navy Office, according to his Majesty's instructions, before the month of January now at hand be expired.

Mr. Pepys acquainting the Lords with Captain Harman of the *Tiger* his demand about which Serjeant Knight¹ and Mr. Pearse² lately wrote to their Lordships, Namely, of having his bills for his cure paid by his Majesty, besides the allowances already made him of a year's wages and continuance in pay, according as the establishment provided in his case in the loss of an eye. Upon which as well the former as latter establishments for allowances for wounds being read; It was RESOLVED, that his Majesty's Chirurgeons above-named should be answered with an approval of their having refused to grant this demand of Captain Harman's as being what the establishment doth not admit, and direction to continue in their said denial.

ORDERED, that before Captain Idle receive any warrant in the business of the ship *Bachelor*, his Royal Highness's title to an interest in the said prize, as being taken beyond the jurisdiction of the Admiralty of England, be considered.

According to appointment upon the 23rd instant, the business of Poulson³ was argued again by counsel on behalf of the Sheriff, and answered by Dr. Lloyd, his Majesty's Advocate,⁴ and Mr. Franklin, the King's

¹ Mr. John Knight, serjeant chirurgeon of the fleet.

² Mr. James Pearse, chirurgeon-general of the fleet.

³ MS. 'the business of the Boulson.'

⁴ Richard Lloyd was admiralty advocate, 1674-85, and then judge of the admiralty court. He was knighted in 1677; see *D. N. B.* xxxiii. 430.

Procurator in the Admiralty Court, who endeavoured to shew that the river of Thames as high as London Bridge was wholly within the jurisdiction of the Lord High Admiral of England. Which the Lords having heard, respited the determining anything in till the opinion of Sir L. Jenkins should be had in the case and the same debated at a fuller Board.

Upon a letter from the Lords Commissioners for Tangier, It was ORDERED, that the Officers of the Navy should be wrote to, to consider and report to their Lordships what provision (if any) is made for the relief of such persons as shall from time to time be in want thereof, either by sickness or wounds, upon the galley after her arrival at Tangier.

Upon a letter read from the Vice-Admiral of North Wales¹; It was RESOLVED, that Mr. Attorney-General should be wrote to for the stopping of proceedings in the case of [the] said Vice-Admiral until the concernment of the Lord Admiral therein was determined.

JANUARY 6, 1674-5

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Sir Leoline² Jenkins attending.]

To-morrow being the day assigned for the Sessions of the Admiralty at the Old Bailey,³ and the indictment of the Ostender for not striking to his Majesty's flag on board the Woolwich sloop, Captain Carverth commander, being read, as it was last night corrected at my Lord Keeper's upon a special meeting thereon had by my Lord Privy Seal, my Lord Chief Justice North,⁴ Mr. Justice Wild,⁵ Mr. Justice Randford,⁶ Mr. Secretary Williamson, Mr. Vice-Chamberlain, Mr. Solicitor

¹ Colonel John Robinson; see *D. N. B.* xlix. 22.

² MS. 'Leonell.'

³ See 19th December.

⁴ Sir Francis North, lord chief justice of the common pleas, 1675-82; afterwards lord chancellor (*D. N. B.* xli. 155).

⁵ Sir William Wilde, judge of the king's bench (*D. N. B.* lxi. 230).

⁶ Sir Richard Rainsford, judge of the king's bench (*D. N. B.* xlvii. 184).

Winnington,¹ and the Secretary of the Admiralty; His Majesty was pleased to declare his pleasure that some of the Lords of the Admiralty, and particularly my Lord Keeper if he could, and my Lord Privy Seal, Mr. Vice-Chamberlain, and as many more at least as would make a quorum, should be present at the trial.

The report from the Officers of the Navy about the distribution of the year's declaration of victual to the several ports being read, was approved of.

Upon reading the narrative of Eaton's, master of [the] John and Sarah merchantman, his late fight and laudable behaviour against a Sallee man-of-war; His Majesty was pleased to RESOLVE, that a medal should be ordered him of the usual value, upon the truth of the said narrative being first [s]worn to by himself and some of his company.

Upon reading a letter from Captain Smith, commander of the Navy yacht, touching an affront done to his Majesty's flag by a master of an English merchant-vessel within the port of Ostend; RESOLVED, that after oath made thereof by the said captain, the master of the said merchant-vessel be enquired after and brought to answer for the same.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy being read, giving an account that two only of all the captains of his Majesty's ships concerned in the breach of the Lord High Admiral's Instructions in the taking in of merchants' goods² have yet attended them for the adjusting with them for the freight of the said goods according to his Majesty's late orders on that behalf; RESOLVED, That the said Officers be directed to appoint a certain day for the bringing in the accounts of the residue of the commanders relating to that matter, with their evidences proving the same, And that upon the said commanders' failure therein they be without further delay called to answer for their said breach of instructions at a court-martial.

¹ Sir Francis Winnington, solicitor-general, 1674-9 (*D. N. B.* lxii. 197).

² See 23rd December.

JANUARY 13, 1674[-5]

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Sir Leo. Jenkins attending, presents their Lordships with two precedents of the warrants of the Earl of Nottingham, Lord High Admiral of England,¹ both signed by one Hareward (then said to be Register of the Admiralty) for the Judge of the Admiralty's issuing his precept to the Marshal thereof for the executing of persons then condemned to death by a Commission of Oyer and Terminer for piracy. Upon which their Lordships RESOLVED to keep to the same form, with the alteration only of their names as his Majesty's Commissioners instead of the Lord High Admiral's.

RESOLVED also, that Friday next be the day for the executing the two persons, George Dickson, *alias* Cusack, *alias* Smith, and Simon Harker, lately condemned for piracy.²

RESOLVED also, that the Attorney-General be spoken with by Sir Leo[line] Jenkins and Mr. Pepys about the claim which the Sheriff of London is said to have lain to the fine set upon the Ostender,³ on behalf of the City of London.

RESOLVED, that the trial of the said Ostender being now over, Captain Carverth be called to a court-martial to answer his laying his head-sails to masts in submission to the said Ostender.

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Admiralty, after finishing his inquiries⁴ touching the information lately given by Captain Wood⁵ of two French men-of-war who passed by him in the Bonadventure off of Falmouth without striking, do report the same to their Lordships, and cause a due entry to be made of what has and shall pass before their Lordships in that matter.

The general state of the navy to be read on Saturday next.

¹ Lord high admiral, 1585-1618 (*D. N. B.* xxviii. 1).

² See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1226 and 2067.

³ See 6th January.

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2066.

⁵ See 19th December.

Mr. Pepys informing the Lords from Major Darell, Governor of Sheerness, that a soldier belonging to that fort has been lately detected in an embezzlement of some of the King's naval stores there, and desiring his Majesty's directions how he shall proceed to the punishing of the said soldier ; RESOLVED, that he be left to be punished according to the common law, and that his Majesty's warrant be obtained by one of the Secretaries of State for his being delivered over to the civil magistrate to that purpose.

The estimates for the victuals, wages, wear, and tear of the next year's summer and winter guard lately signed by the Lords¹ were put into the hands of my Lord Privy Seal for his presenting the same in Council this day for confirmation.

JANUARY 16, 1674[-5]

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Arlington ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Sir Leoline Jenkins and Navy Officers attending.]

Sir Leo. Jenkins informing my Lords that himself and Mr. Pepys had the last night and this morning attended my Lord Chief Justice North for his advice touching the form of the warrant to be signed by their Lordships for the execution of the two pirates, Cusack and Harker,² and to that purpose shewn him several precedents of warrants signed on the like occasion of sentences upon Commission of Oyer and Terminer in the Admiralty, as well in the time of a Lord High Admiral as of the executing the Admiral's office by commission, and that it was the Lord Chief Justice's opinion that, as in former cases in the time of a commission, this warrant ought to run in his Majesty's name ; Their Lordships were pleased to agree with the Lord Chief Justice therein, and signing to a warrant drawn up in the presence and with the advice of his Lordship, RESOLVED, that Monday next be the day of execution.

The representation prepared for his Majesty's view of the present state of the navy³ in reference to the

¹ See 12th December.

² See 13th January.

³ See 23rd December.

number, force, and condition of all his Majesty's ships and vessels with regard to their want of repair, and the sum of money, number of workmen, and length of time necessary for the making good thereof, with the monthly proportions by which the said money ought to be supplied for the enabling the Officers of the Navy to perform the said work; With the further estimate of the value of the stores wanting for the maintaining of the said ships, when repaired, for 8 months sea service; And, lastly, a comparison made and the difference shewn between the number and force of his Majesty's present ships of war and those of Holland and France¹: being viewed and considered by their Lordships, was signed by the number now present, to be tendered for signing to my Lord Treasurer and the rest at their next meeting and then presented to his Majesty at a time to be desired of and appointed by his Majesty for that purpose.

Upon occasion of a petition brought to the Board by the Lord Privy Seal for the payment of an old postponed debt of the navy said to be secured upon the Wine Act²; Mr. Pepys was directed to inform himself and then their Lordships touching the present state of the debt of assignment and the conditions of the said postponing.

The Navy Officers' report read and agreed to by the Lords upon the business of the ropemakers' complaint of want of work by reason of the importation of foreign yarn and cordage³; ORDERED, That a report consonant thereto be prepared for their Lordships to return to his Majesty in Council.

The like report from the Officers of the Navy being read, giving their reasons against the granting to Gale and Paine or any persons else a warrant dormant for searching for embezzled goods, as being not only unnecessary but dangerous; Their Lordships fully agreed therewith, and RESOLVED, that no such warrant should be granted.

Another like report from the said Officers being read, largely opening their opinion of the vanity of Mr. Abraham Parker's late proposals and importunities thereon, viz. :—

Of manning the fleet upon any occasion without impressing men, and discharging of a fleet without

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 46.

² See note on p. 315 below.

³ See pp. 92, 104, above.

presting money and yet with satisfaction to each person discharged, and the erecting of an office of muster-master-general for the preventing all frauds about tickets.

Wherein the said Officers abundantly shew the absurdities in the two former, and the impracticableness of the last as well as its uselessness in case the present rules of the navy were strictly put in execution, which (they observe) must (as well as whatever else is or can be propounded in this affair) depend upon the faithfulness, experience, and circumspection of the commanders. Their Lordships were pleased thoroughly to agree with the opinion of the said Officers of the Navy herein, with a useful inference gathered therefrom of the importance it is to his Majesty that good regard be had to the choice of commanders, that they be such as may thoroughly understand their duties, and strict discipline observed in the correcting of them for their failures and misbehaviours therein.

Upon a petition from Mr. Idle, and a reference from the Council Board to my Lords of the Admiralty thereon ; It was RESOLVED, that his whole matter, with all parties concerned therein, in reference as well to his company's respective pretences as his Royal Highness's and the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights, should be heard on Saturday next.

The petition of Mr. Cooper, the paymaster to the hospitals under the Commissioners for Sick and Wounded Seamen, being read, is referred to the said Commissioners to examine and report.

The like to Sir Leo. Jenkins upon the petition of Colonel Kennedy for reimbursements and reward for his charges and service in the apprehending of Cusack.

The report of the Officers of the Navy being read touching the provision made for persons sick upon the galley¹ ; RESOLVED, that the Commissioners for Tangier be informed (in answer to their late letter on that subject) that the charge of the sick shall not fall either upon the garrison or town of Tangier, but be otherwise provided for. RESOLVED also, that Mr. Pepys do take care for

¹ See 30th December.

the providing a rule to be established by his Majesty for the settling such a provision for sick and wounded men on board the galley (as well slaves as others) as is provided for his Majesty's subjects serving on board his own ships of war in foreign voyages.

JANUARY 20, 1674[-5]

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

RESOLVED, upon occasion of the sale made of the loading of the ship Bachelor, that the whole business of that ship in relation to the various pretences of his Royal Highness, Captain Idle, and his company, to the proceed of the said goods and ship, be heard upon Saturday morning next come seven night, against which time the entire value thereof will be adjusted by the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights.

Mr. Pepys informing the Lords of some advice he had received touching an injury offered to an English merchantman in the Channel by three French privateers off of the Isle of Wight, which ships are said to have come in sometimes into some of our ports thereabouts to refit ; RESOLVED, That letters¹ be sent to Cowes and Yarmouth in that Island for information touching the said ships and commanders, in order to the demanding satisfaction for the said injury.

Mrs. Pley attending in behalf of her husband upon his late petition² and order of reference from the Council Board, and the whole business with the Navy Officers' report thereon being considered, and the value of the service done his Majesty by the said Mr. Pley in the serving in of those naval goods in the year 1665 upon which Mr. Pley now demands satisfaction for the loss he hath sustained by the want of timely payment for the same ; ORDERED, that a report be prepared in as much favour to his case as can consist with the doing right to the many others who may be found to have the same pretence to satisfaction for losses on the like occasion.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2068.

² See 23rd December.

The court-martial to be hastened in the business of Captain Carverth.

Mr. Pepys is directed to move the King for leave for the Lords to attend him with their report touching the present state of his navy upon Saturday next.

Mr. Pepys opening to their Lordships the case of the masters of the 1st-rate ships, for whom no provision is made during peace though of the whole body of the navy they seem the persons most necessary for his Majesty to encourage and secure for his service, as being but few in number and their charge of more moment and with more difficulty to be provided for than that of commanders, for whom a provision is made; Their Lordships approved of the motion, directing Mr. Pepys to prepare himself to give the King an account thereof at some time when he is attended by their Lordships, in order to his determining something in favour of the said masters.¹

JANUARY 23, 1674[-5]

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Arlington; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

The representation prepared by the Lords of the present state of the navy and signed by them the 16th instant (*vide* the substance thereof entered that day) being presented to and received by his Majesty and the moment thereof discoursed, His Majesty was pleased to refer it to his own further consideration, putting the paper into the Secretary of the Admiralty's hand there to remain, commanding that no copies thereof be issued by him upon any pretence whatsoever, whether of this Board or others, without his own special order.

The Officers of the Navy being called in, Mr. Secretary Coventry delivered to the Secretary of the Admiralty a petition, with a report thereon from the Officers of the Navy, in the case of Sir Edward Spragge's executors and on behalf of his children and creditors,² desiring among other things his Majesty's remitting them a debt due to

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 147.

² *D. N. B.* liii. 418, does not refer to these embarrassments.

him on account of Sir Edward Spragge to the value of about 3000 and odd pounds, As also the payment of the arrears of his wages, gunnage and tonnage upon the ship burnt by him [at] Bugia, and the allowance granted by his Majesty to the orphans of commanders slain in his service, Without the granting of all which they declare that the debts of the said Sir E. S. will never be paid and that his children will want bread. Upon consideration whereof, and the memory of the great services of the said Sir Edward Spragge, his Majesty, with the advice of the Lords, was graciously pleased to declare his consent to all the several desires of his said executors, Sir Joseph Sheldon and others, ordering the Secretary of the Admiralty to prepare suitable orders accordingly, Provided that the same be done so as may be conclusive against any future demands of the said executors or others on any account relating to the said Sir E. Spragge whatsoever.

A memorial being read from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck touching some innovations made upon his Majesty's ships at Livorne by demanding duties of them for the very provisions and stores delivered for his Majesty's own use, contrary to all past practice towards himself or what is now done by them in reference to any other prince or state; RESOLVED, that the said memorial be delivered to one of the Secretaries of State in order to his Majesty's writing to the Grand¹ Duke concerning it.

Memorandum. That occasion was hereupon taken by Mr. Pepys of observing to his Majesty and my Lords the ground of these innovations, rendering them in some sort reasonable on the part of the Grand¹ Duke, Namely, our commanders turning his Majesty's ships into merchantmen by taking in of merchants' goods as they have hitherto done, and thereby putting themselves into the condition of merchantmen, and exposing themselves to the being treated as such. Whereof his Majesty and my Lords taking notice, RESOLVED, that all severity should still be continued in the punishing of this practice as often as it is discovered.

Mr. Pepys did also hereupon take occasion of representing to his Majesty and the Board the dishonour his Majesty

¹ MS. 'Great.'

had already received in the esteem and public discourses of the people at Livorne from the Centurion's striking her flag before her coming into that port and keeping it down all the time she was there while his Majesty's Ambassador, Sir John Finch,¹ was going in her to Constantinople and in his way visited Livorne—a practice that may be of ill precedent to the honour of his Majesty, especially among that people, and the more in that they know that the flag was kept up in every other port in which she touched but there. Whereof his Majesty and my Lords being very sensible, RESOLVED, that Captain Wylde should be wrote to, to give an account of the grounds of his taking in his flag, in order to his Majesty doing what thereupon shall be found needful for the righting himself therein.

Upon a petition read from the several masters attendant of the King's yards, praying the payment of their arrears and setting their future payment of what shall grow due to them upon the liveries anciently allowed them out of the Great Wardrobe; ORDERED, That the Secretary of the Admiralty do present the Lord Treasurer with an account of matter of fact relating to the practice of the navy in this particular.

Captain Kennedy, by whom Cusack the pirate was taken and in pursuance thereof lately hanged, desiring by petition the reimbursement of his charges in that service, amounting as he pretends to [*blank*] pounds, and it appearing upon the opening thereof that what he did therein was only in order to the recovering of the vessel whereon the said Cusack was taken, and which he was by the owners of the said vessel entrusted and employed in the recovering of; RESOLVED, that in case the said vessel, which is now in the King's hands, shall be found to belong to the former owners thereof (Calhoun² and others), Kennedy is to expect his satisfaction from them, But in case the vessel shall be found forfeited to the King (wherein Mr. Pepys is to advise with the Judge of the Admiralty), his Majesty will then out of the proceed of the said vessel see him satisfied all his reasonable charges on this affair.

¹ See *D. N. B.* xix. 18.

² MS. 'Calune.'

The Lord Arlington presenting a petition on behalf of the company of the Greyhound for some part of their pay, they pretending to be 30 months in arrear, my Lord Treasurer is directed to see them have part of their pay speedily paid them, and Mr. Pepys directed to be his Lordship's remembrancer therein.

FEBRUARY 2, 1674-5

[At the Treasury Chamber at Whitehall. *Present*: Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

A special meeting of the Lords being this day had at the desire of my Lord Treasurer, in order to the communicating to them some time since presented to his Majesty and by him referred particularly to the inquiries of his Lordship's concerning several frauds pretended to be discovered by one Mr. Jones, by false entries, discharges, and rating upon ships' books, the said Jones was called in, who tendering five or six ships' books to their Lordships wherein he offers to prove frauds of these kinds to the value of above £1000 each in two of them and £500 each in others, which he at the same time offered seven or eight several persons *viva voce* to justify; Their Lordships were pleased to appoint Thursday morning next at the Treasury Chamber for the hearing and examining of this whole matter, and to order Mr. Jones to attend them with the witnesses on that behalf, Which was accordingly done by a written summons sent to him in the afternoon by the Secretary of the Admiralty (*vide* the letter-book).

FEBRUARY 3, 1674[-5]

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker.¹]

Mr. Secretary Williamson presenting to the Board a memorial from the Dutch Ambassador, signed by his secretary, desiring leave that 2 herring-busses taken by the French, carried into Yarmouth, and there bought

¹ MS. 'Seaymour,' by an obvious slip; until the dissolution of Parliament in 1679 Seymour is always referred to as 'Mr. Speaker.'

again by order of the proprietors with intention of carrying them thence back into Holland, may have leave of manning themselves for the voyage with English mariners ; Mr. Pepys was directed to receive his Majesty's pleasure, and signify the same by an order therein.

The business of the ship Bachelor being taken into consideration, with all persons interested therein present, viz., the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights in behalf of the King (who reports the full value of the proceed¹ of the said ship not to arise to more than 13 hundred and odd pounds) ; Mr. Idle, her master, who pretends to the sum of £1800 as his Majesty's free gift intended to him by Order of Council ; and his ship's company, who were equal adventurers with him in the enterprise of taking this ship, and pretend his engagement to them, as the condition of their undertaking, that they should share and share like in the benefit of the prize, which condition is proved by the oath of one of the said company, who having for a certain sum of money first paid him, and thereupon discharged Captain Idle from any pretences of further claim, is esteemed a good witness in the present case touching the aforesaid condition : Whereunto Idle by his counsel answered by denying of the said agreement, but that if any such should be so proved as that their Lordships should give credit to the same he would be ready to agree thereto and rest contented with no more than his equal share of the proceed of the said prize, Provided that all his reasonable charges in the pursuit, of capture, bringing home, and on other necessary occasions relating to the same, should be first reimbursed him. It was RESOLVED, that the said Idle do prepare himself, with what speed he can, at another meeting of their Lordships, either to disprove the condition pretended to by his ship's company as aforesaid, or shew some other ; And that in case he shall not be able to disprove the same, himself and company shall receive by equal shares (wherein his servants are to be reputed sharers equal with the rest) what his Majesty shall, upon his being informed in the just proceed of the said ship, and after the said Idle

¹ ' Proceed ' in the singular was in common use at this time, although ' proceeds ' occurs in Pepys's *Diary*.

shall be reimbursed such his charges as shall upon examination be judged reasonable by the Judge of the Admiralty.

FEBRUARY 4, 1674[-5]

[At the Treasury Chamber. *Present* : Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker.]

Their Lordships taking into consideration a fraud lately detected whereby a ticket of about 80 soldiers serving in the last war and amounting to about £130 has been paid by the Treasurer of the Navy to one Patrick Adair,¹ who, being brought hither in custody from the guard by an officer of the Lord Craven's,² did own his having received the said money upon the said tickets being made over to him for £46 by one Sergeant Westley, who being also present owns his having entrusted the said Adair¹ with this ticket and his having received the said money but not in full satisfaction for the same, As also that he did at the same time know that the men concerned in the said ticket had been already satisfied for their said pay by their officers ; It was RESOLVED, that the ground of this double payment be inquired into by Mr. Pepys and report it to their Lordships, And that in the mean time Adair¹ do put in bail for his appearance to answer to what upon inquiry shall be found chargeable upon him ; Upon which Colonel Kennedy, who rides in his Majesty's guards, being called in, and there acknowledging himself debtor to his Majesty in the sum of £200 upon condition of being discharged of the same in case the said Adair¹ do duly make his appearance in the present case when called, the said Adair¹ was dismissed.

Mr. Jones, according to their Lordships' determination two days since,³ was heard with his witnesses to the business of the discoveries by him pretended to be made

¹ MS. 'Addare.'

² The Earl of Craven was colonel of a number of regiments (*D. N. B.* xiii. 46).

³ See 2nd February.

of frauds to the prejudice of his Majesty in the pay-books of several of his Majesty's ships, and particularly upon the following, viz.—Stavoreen, Ruby, Reserve, Thomas and Francis, Adventure, Speedwell, John of Dover,—to the value of about £3000 in the said 7 books; The frauds being of the following sorts, viz.—bearing persons who never appeared, (and therein gave an instance not only of two women borne on the Ruby, one by the name of Thomas Blackborne who was wife to one Richard Blackborne and the other of Thomas Bedford, wife of William Bedford, whose husbands belong to the said ship, Captain Pyend commander, but of a dog borne on the Thomas and Francis belonging to the captain of the said ship, Captain Gallop, under the name of Mr. Bromley); entering others before they appeared; bearing men longer than they served or making them discharged who should be made 'run'; or, lastly, charging men with clothes who either had none or not so much as is set down in the books.

His evidences are generally stewards of the ships wherein the frauds are found, and actors in the said frauds, but pardoned, as Jones pretends, by his Majesty's promise to him in the presence of my Lord Keeper and my Lord Treasurer in order to their conducting them to confess.

He informs the Lords of the danger his witnesses go in from their commanders and pursers, and that particularly the steward of the Speedwell is at this day in prison at the suit of his purser, and Grandon, the steward of the Reserve, the like at the suit of Mills, his purser, upon an account of £400, upon no other occasion or provocation than that of his prosecuting him with his testimony in behalf of his Majesty.

Upon which, and Mr. Jones's insisting peremptorily upon having £500 forthwith advanced to him towards the enabling him to go on in the work, which he in general declared to have been so chargeable to him already as that, besides the £200 which he owns to have already been supplied with out of the privy purse and £200 more from my Lord Treasurer, he had, over and above, disbursed thereon out of his own purse above £500 more, But with a declaration also (upon their Lordships'

demand and instant therein) that it was wholly impossible for him to give any particular account of his layings out of the said moneys, partly from the smallness and diversity of his payments and partly from the suddenness, uncertainty, and his want of time, and instancing in the applications made to him daily by one for money for food, another for shoes, by 1s. and 2s. 6d., and a third for wherewith to pay debts to the value of 20s., 40s., £4, and £5 a man, which he urges they would not be exposed to in case they were not by this their attendance of his Majesty's service hindered from making other provisions for themselves; It was RESOLVED, That the 7 books now delivered in (which are all he saith he could yet finish in the year and half that he has employed himself upon this work) be forthwith put into the hands of 4 clerks of the navy, viz., Mr. Hewer¹ on behalf of their Lordships, Captain Shales² on behalf of my Lord Treasurer, Mr. Maddockes³ of the Treasurer of the Navy, and a 4th to be appointed by the Navy Board, who are from day to day to meet at the Treasury Office in Broad Street, there to examine the said books, and what more shall from time to time be presented to them by the said Mr. Jones, comparing them with the books of the Navy and Ticket Offices and receiving what evidences the said Mr. Jones shall bring in proof of his discoveries, The results whereof and the profit arising therefrom to his Majesty they are to report to their Lordships as the said books or any of them shall from time to time be by them examined.

RESOLVED also, That for the better protecting from arrests or other molestation the persons concerned in the proof of the said Jones's discoveries, they be severally supplied with warrants from their Lordships commanding them to attend on this his Majesty's service.

RESOLVED also, that Mr. Jones do, with what speed he can, deliver in the most satisfactory account he is able to make of his past disbursements in this affair, and that for the future moneys shall be put into one of the said clerks hands to answer such necessities of the said

¹ The W. Hewer of the *Diary*.

² Captain Shales was an experienced accountant (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 73).

³ Mr. Robert Maddockes was a paymaster of the navy.

witnesses and persons employed by the said Mr. Jones as the said Jones shall from time to time have occasion to demand, [and] their Lordships shall upon further consideration in that particular declare reasonable by some instructions to be given the said clerk on that behalf.

RESOLVED, That the purser of the Reserve before mentioned be summoned to attend their Lordships to satisfy them in the reasons of his proceedings against the steward, Who is also to come with his keeper to inform my Lords in his reasonable complaints against the said purser.

RESOLVED lastly, That Mr. Pepys do to-morrow visit the Officers of the Navy at their office, and, Mr. Jones being present, to adjust all circumstances relating to the putting into a speedy and effectual execution their Lordships' present resolves touching the examining of the said books and discovering of the frauds suggested therein.

Memorandum. That, among other persons brought by Jones and discoursed with by the Lords, was one Charles Rogers in relation to frauds pretended to be discovered in Major Beckford the slopseller's dealings,¹ who declares that he hath been offered 1000 guineas to go out of the way by one Gwilliam, purser of the Monmouth, who gave this as the reason, that if the business of Mr. Jones's accusations should go on against Major Beckford it would at last fall upon the pursers, Which he said he was ready to make oath to if required. This Rogers had been servant to Beckford.

Memorandum. That the several persons produced this day by Mr. Jones in order as well to their demanding further supplies of money and to justify Mr. Jones's pretences of his great disbursements (before mentioned) to them for their assistance in these discoveries, as to shew in general by discourse the nature and importance of their said discoveries, were (Mr. Jones being first withdrawn) interrogated as to the times they were severally first entertained by Mr. Jones, the matters wherein they respectively were assistant to him, and the supplies of money they had each of them to this day received from him. To which they severally answered as followeth:—

¹ MS. 'declarings.'

Persons.	The especial matters of their several services and information.	Since when entertained by Mr. Jones.	Total of money hitherto paid them by Mr. Jones		
			£	s.	d.
Joseph Turton	Stavoreen	3 Nov. '74	5	6	0
Andrew Arnold	{ Thomas and Francis, and Newcastle }	7 Jan. '74[-5]	3	17	6
John Pooley	{ Monck, and Swiftsure }	31 Dec. '74	4	0	0
John Cade	Stavoreen	1 Jan. '74[-5]	3	0	0
George Ash	English Ruby	4 Feb. '74[-5]	0	2	6
Mr. Bedford	Do.	30 Nov. '74	10	0	0
Robert Harrison	Speedwell	6 Jan. '74[-5]	3	12	6
Charles Rogers	Sloops	1 Sept. '74	23	0	0 ¹
Robert Swann	{ Adventure, and Newcastle }	15 May '74	30	0	0
John Lea	{ Speedwell, and Swiftsure }	31 Dec. '74	3	0	0
Matthew Carey	Swiftsure	4 Jan. '74[-5]	2	5	6
Henry Chadborne	Stavoreen	..	..	..	..
			88	4	0

Mr. Jones owns Swann to be the first from whom he received any information, and that in the particular case of the Adventure, and that from him he took rise for his inquiries after the rest.

FEBRUARY 5, 1674[-5]

[At the Navy Office.]

Mr. Pepys, according to the resolutions of the Lords yesterday, met Mr. Jones at the Navy Office, where acquainting the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy with what the Lords had done in determining upon a method of examining the books whereon Mr. Jones pretends his discoveries of frauds, he delivered the said 7 books mentioned yesterday to the said Officers, with an account of the clerks designed by their Lordships for the management of these examinations, towards which they propound Mr. Whitfield for the clerk to be employed on behalf of the Ticket Office, and did together with Mr. Jones agree upon Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays in the morning at the Treasury Office in

¹ There is a note to this figure, but defaced by close cutting.

Broad Street to be the times of their constant meetings for the examinations of the said books and receiving the evidences to be produced as well by Mr. Jones as by the persons by him charged with the frauds discovered therein.

Which being done, Mr. Jones put into Mr. Pepys's hand a list of 23 several persons for whom he desires protections for their better security in their attendance upon this service.

This being done, and Mr. Jones satisfied and withdrawn, Mr. Pepys opened to them the list of the soldiers yesterday brought to my Lords by my Lord Craven which appears to have been doubly paid,¹ that is to say, both by the navy and the Treasurer of the Army, and the occasion thereof clear, viz., by their being continued on the muster-book of Commissary Ba[i]nes on shore while they were in actual service at sea, and by being so in quality of commanded men were by the known practice of the navy payable by the Navy Treasurer. Which sort of mistake for the preventing for the time to come (whereof what quantity hath already passed doth not appear but may have been great), the Officers of the Navy came to a resolution not to pay any list of soldiers hereafter until they do receive a certificate from Commissary Ba[i]nes's own hand, That the said soldiers were not borne on his Majesty's muster-rolls within the time of the lists or tickets.

Sir Thomas Allin also was in particular desired as Comptroller of the Navy to confer as soon as he can with the said commissary and Sir Stephen Fox² on this subject and upon this particular case, in order to the recovering as much as is possible the damage the King may have already sustained by the same or may further sustain.

FEBRUARY 6, 1674[-5]

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Captain Greene informing their Lordships of a stop made to the payment of his Majesty's wages by the

¹ See 4th February.

² Paymaster-general (*D. N. B.*, xx. 133).

Officers of the Navy until they shall be informed of the result of the court-martial whereat he was during the late war reported to have been tried for some enormities and misbehaviours,¹ and his Highness the Prince informing the Lords that the said Captain Greene had indeed been cited before a court-martial on the account of some misdemeanours, but that the court-martial never came to any conviction of him or sentence against him, and no written sentence of a court-martial appearing among the papers of the Admiralty in relation to him, their Lordships did agree that the said Captain Greene should stand in condition of receiving his wages as if no such report or court-martial had been, and that the Officers of the Navy should accordingly be directed to treat him as such.

His Highness also presenting a bill to the Lords of Monsieur Choqueux, his chirurgion, for wages yet unpaid him for his service at sea, which appearing by its date to be a particular of the old debt of the navy which is assigned upon the Wine Act,² their Lordships found it not in their power to order the payment thereof otherwise than as the rest of the said debt shall in course become paid out of the said fund assigned for it.

The sentence of the court-martial held for the trial of Captain Carverth³ for his failure in bringing his headsails to the mast in the Woolwich sloop in his late conflict with an Ostend caper being read, wherein the said captain is acquitted, as having done the same not in any sort of submission to the said Ostender but on very good considerations in the said sentence expressed, their Lordships approved thereof, declaring themselves so far satisfied with the said captain touching the same as to direct the stop of his pay for his service in the said sloop to be forthwith removed, and refer to the Officers of the Navy the examining Captain Carverth's demands of reimbursement of his charges in keeping so many of his ship's company as were necessary to be kept for the giving evidence in this matter, as well for the King

¹ Captain Levi Green, commander of the Greenwich, is entered in Pepys's *Register of Sea-Officers* as 'discharged by a court-martial.'

² See note on p. 315 below.

³ See 13th January.

against the Ostender in the late public trial of him for his not striking to the King's ship as for himself in the case wherein this sentence of the court-martial is now given. Which account of charges the said Officers are to examine, and report their opinion to the Lords what part thereof is fit to be borne by the King and what by Captain Carverth.

Mr. Speaker presents their Lordships with a very distinct abstract of all his receipts and payments as Treasurer of the Navy from the 12th of July 1673, the commencement of his Treasurership, to the 31st December 1674.

Sir John Duteil's lady applying herself to their Lordships for their order for the present payment of a bill of £50 upon account of her husband's wages, out of which he hath made over to her for her and her family's support in his absence the sum of £100 per annum, whereof this £50 is for one half-year, their Lordships refer her to be paid in course.

A petition being presented to the Lords by one Mr. Holsted and others in their own names, complaining of some trouble they are like to fall into from one Brookes his prosecuting them for some proceedings of theirs in the executing of a commission from the Court of Admiralty relating to their inquiries into some abuses committed by the said Brookes and others in their seizing and embezzling of some goods found in a vessel drove in upon the coast of the Vice-Admiralty of Sussex ; Their Lordships ORDERED the petitioners to make oath to the truth of the case as the same is by them stated, and that thereupon the said Brookes be summoned to give in his answer to the same before their Lordships. ORDERED, also, that the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights be directed to give their Lordships an account of what hath appeared before them of this matter. RESOLVED also, from some fresh instances herein given of the inconveniencies arising from the officers of the Vice-Admiralty's not renewing their commissions, that they be again pressed to renew the same, with intimation that commission will otherwise be granted to other hands.

Mr. Pepys reports what he had done yesterday at

the Navy Board touching Mr. Jones's business.¹ In pursuance whereof their Lordships direct the Officers of the Navy to proceed accordingly with all fitting dispatch with the examination of the ships' books wherein the frauds pretended to be discovered by Mr. Jones are and shall [be] by him declared to lie, and themselves proceeded to the signing of the protections, in the form they were then drawn, for the persons contained in Mr. Jones's list.

Their Lordships, upon reading the letter from the Officers of the Navy accompanying the new draught by them at length prepared of the victualling contract, did refer the same to the Secretary of the Admiralty to pursue, in order to his informing their Lordships how far the said Officers do appear to have therein provided for all the cases wherein amendments were formerly propounded as needful to be made to the old contract.

A petition of one Bastard being read, in behalf of Ellis, late lieutenant of the Bristol, for the payment of the said Ellis's wages, and Mr. Speaker therein informing my Lords of the wretched condition of the said Ellis, as being both mad and under want to a degree of being ready to starve, their Lordships, with the advice of the Officers of the Navy, did RESOLVE, that his said wages should be forthwith paid out of the £500 a week appointed for payment of tickets.

One Hill upon his petition acknowledging his fault (occasioned by his ignorance) in arresting one of his Majesty's pay without leave of their Lordships, is excused and discharged.

Upon the Lord Brouncker and the Officers of the Navy's applying themselves in particular to the Lord Treasurer for his directions relating to some proceedings of theirs about assignments and payments; his Lordship was pleased to direct them not to stop but to proceed in their assigning as they did before.

The Secretary of the Admiralty proposing to their Lordships the consideration of the business of protections and passes, for preventing as much as might be the frauds yet suspected to be imposed upon his Majesty therein to the colouring of strangers' ships and pro-

¹ See 5th February.

prieties¹; RESOLVED, that the same be referred to be discoursed on at the Treasury Chamber at Whitehall on Monday next in the afternoon, the two Secretaries of State and the Commissioners of Customs particularly to be present.

He also acquainting the Lords with what was done by him with the Officers of the Navy in the business of the soldiers' tickets for their wages which had been doubly paid² . . . their Lordships were satisfied therein, and that Adair and the parties concerned in the cheat of getting these men double paid should be prosecuted on behalf of the King by those through whose hands the irregular payment had been made, upon conference had therein with them by the Comptroller of the Navy, as was yesterday agreed on at the Navy Office.

FEBRUARY 8, 1674[-5]

[At the Treasury Chamber. *Present*: Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Commissioners of the Customs attending, and the Secretary of the Admiralty.]

The particular business of this meeting being the discoursing with the Commissioners of the Customs upon the subject of passes² and the prevention of the abuses thereof, the same was promiscuously debated and therein the following particulars suggested and more especially discoursed upon, viz. :—

The present method of the said Commissioners' proceedings and cautions in the granting of their passes: Wherein, though they cannot better the form of the pass or make any alteration therein, in regard that the same is established in the terms of it by the letter of the Treaty, yet they allege that in their granting of them they do, for the obviating of the frauds incident thereto, which after being loosely instanced in by the said Commissioners severally, were at last summed up by Sir George Downing³ as followeth :—

¹ In the sense of 'ownership.'

² See 6th February.

³ See *D. N. B.*, xv. 399. Sir George Downing was at this time a commissioner of the customs.

That they always observed that the ship for which a pass is required be then actually in port ;

That the oath of her belonging to English be sworn by the master only ;

That one officer of theirs do visit her, in order to the making what discoveries they can of her propriety by a view of her loading and of her men—Which latter, if they prove all foreigners, great ground is given of doubting her ;

Then to enquire if she be foreign-built or not ; If so, how long she hath appertained to England ; If a short time, as for example since the peace, then they are very strict in their further inquiries unless she be naturalised.

Further points of discourse were these :—

The inconveniencies of giving a pass every voyage, it putting it into the power of the master to lend their former pass to others.

An account propounded to be therefore taken, at the granting of every pass, that there was none granted and standing out for the same ship before.

Whether it would not be fit that the custom-house officer be joined with a mayor in the giving of passes in the out-ports.

No ship to have a pass but from the port where she loaded or cleared out, for preventing ships going only into a port to call for a pass.

Query, What ships that come from abroad and would take passes at the out-port shall have them ? Mr. Garway saith it is a nice point, and that he would not have ships coming from abroad wholly denied passes but to be given them only by the Lords of the Admiralty ; whereto they all seemed to agree.

In the out-ports the magistrates to give the passes, as the Treaty directs ; but they may be commanded to grant them with the advice of the officers of the customs.

The City of London to be sent to for an account of all the passes given by the Lord Mayor, and the grounds thereof ; And that a general account be returned to the Lords of the Admiralty from time to time of all passes, as well those already heretofore granted as what shall hereafter be, to be constantly kept perfect, as that which

may be useful for his Majesty and their Lordships' information on many occasions.

Whether passes be fit to be granted to any ships abroad?

Whether a foreign-built ship, owned and manned by English and not made free, may not be employed on many trades without passes? Wherein the Commissioners of the Customs seem to differ in their opinions.

The proposition of revoking the passes already abroad was generally disliked, with an addition that even the report of their being contraverted might prove inconvenient to our navigation abroad. But forasmuch as the greatest part of these particulars were discoursed of but imperfectly, and sometimes with a difference of opinion touching the same among the Commissioners, the whole debate ended in a resolution that the said Commissioners should, upon what had been thus imperfectly run over, digest the sum of the advice they should all agree on in this matter in writing as soon as they can, and present the same to my Lord Treasurer; Which they accordingly undertaking, withdrew.

After which Mr. Jones being called in, declares that since his last attending on their Lordships¹ he had discovered further frauds upon the French Ruby to the value of £500.

Several persons were also brought by him declaring their want of money, Whereto the Lords replied by directing Mr. Jones to prepare a particular account of his disbursements past, in order to their knowing how his former supplies have been employed, and the particular persons and their several services to whom he expects to be enabled to make further payments.

FEBRUARY 10, 1674[-5]

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Jones attending their Lordships in order to the satisfying them in the grounds of his proceedings and the moment thereof to his Majesty in the value of the

¹ See 4th February.

frauds by him pretended to be discovered, and more especially in order to the justifying his great instance in his solicitations for more money,¹ shews by a large but general discourse that he hath several persons in constant pay who serve him as clerks, others as spies, others as witnesses ; And that as the fruits thereof he had discovered frauds to the value of above £3000 or £4000 upon the books lately given in, besides informations to above £4000² value at this day lodged by him at the Exchequer.

As a further instance of his work, he declares that he is found to take copies of all the ships' books that are delivered to him.

But he brings none of the men with him which he was directed to do for the satisfying my Lords in their pretences to further supplies of money, but is therefore bid to bring them on Saturday next, with a list of all his men's names and their respective services.

He is directed from this day forward to disburse no more money in this service ; for that as there is occasion for the same their Lordships will appoint a hand of their own to do it. To which he replying, in a style and manner very offensive to their Lordships, that he cared not whether he had ever anything more to do in the business or not, since he meets with so much trouble in it, and that he could not be trusted with the payment of the men he employed without such an account to be given thereof as he was never able to make, and that as he cared not whether ever he did more therein so he did as little care whether he were ever reimbursed for what he had done ; Their Lordships declare that they are so far from directing him to forbear his further acting (which in his discourse he had also intimated), as that they both desired and would give him all fitting encouragement for his going on, as well as being instrumental with his Majesty for his being fully rewarded, as well for what he had as what he should further do, when the benefit arising therefrom to his Majesty should after examination appear, and to that purpose further invited him to present them in writing each sitting-day with the names of the men he would have supplied with money, with the particular

¹ See 8th February.

² MS. '£40,000,' but this is an impossible figure.

services on which they were employed and the sums he demanded for them, according to which their Lordships would give order for their payment, as far as the same should appear to them reasonable. But that an account they would expect of his disbursements past to be as particularly expressed as he can, with the best satisfaction he could provide for their Lordships touching the truth thereof. To which he answering that he should not promise to give their Lordships all the light they seem to demand in this business until he had further considered it, he proceeded to desire that Ferman, steward of the Speedwell and one of his principal witnesses as he alleges, might be forthwith discharged out of prison, where he at present lies at the suit of his purser, alleging that the King had promised that all persons who should be employed by him as witnesses in this service should be protected, and that unless the said Ferman were so discharged in pursuance of the King's said promise he would be in a danger of being brought presently to the pillory ; Their Lordships thought fit to reply that upon his producing his Majesty's promise in writing on that behalf they would forthwith see the same made good, but till then thought it not in their power to do it.

Memorandum. That there was present at this discourse one Nicholas, brought in by Mr. Jones as a witness to it, as well as one who was to give testimony to the truth of his pretences to the keeping of several persons in constant pay upon this service, Who upon examination saith that he hath been Mr. Jones's clerk ever since September last ; That his work is to write abstracts, draw depositions, and copy the ships' books ; That his wages is after the rate of 20s. per week and that he hath been so paid by Mr. Jones within a fortnight of this day ; That he was bred an attorney in the King's Bench ; That he lodges at one Hooper's, a glazier in Whitefriars ; And that though there are 2 or 3 others besides himself—namely, Boatman, Swann, and Rogers—who serve Mr. Jones as clerks by a week or a fortnight together, as occasion requires, there is none serve him in constant pay in the quality of clerks but himself.

After which, Mr. Jones withdrawing, the case of Colonel Robinson, Vice-Admiral of North Wales, being

read, complaining of the irregular proceedings of Sir John Carter in relation to a wreck lately happening upon the coast of that Vice-Admiralty ; ORDERED, that Sir John Carter be summoned to attend their Lordships upon Saturday next.

FEBRUARY 13, 1674[-5]

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Upon observation made to their Lordships by Mr. Pepys upon what Mr. Jones at their last sitting discovered of his practice of taking copies of all the ships' books which come into his hand, and the opening the inconveniencies that may arise to the King from the same, and more particularly in his and others having thereby the opportunity of knowing all the names that stand open upon the said ships' books, and the opportunity thereby given them of using artifices for the demanding and gaining to themselves the wages thereon due which might otherwise never be called for ; As also the little pretence which Jones can have to the sight of those books, the frauds he pretends to the discovery of being to be shewn out of other books or papers in comptrol to those lying in the Office ; Their Lordships RESOLVED, and accordingly direct the Officers of the Navy,¹ that no more books be delivered out of the Office to Mr. Jones, and do commit to Mr. Speaker, who takes upon him the trouble of being present at the examination of Jones's books at his office, the care of finding some expedient of getting from Jones the copies of those books which he hath already taken.

Sir John Carter appearing in the business of Colonel Robinson's complaint,² and justifying by counsel his doing what he hath done, as being his Majesty's steward in his manor of Denbigh, within which the wreck in question fell and whereto his Majesty hath claimed as lord of the manor, and therefore insisting upon it that the matter may go on by law in the Exchequer ; It was RESOLVED, that Sir John Carter do with all convenient speed present their Lordships in writing with a state of the

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2091.

² See 10th February.

matter of fact as he represents it (which is quite different from that of Colonel Robinson), and that a commission do proceed out of the Admiralty Court for examining the whole business.

Switscher, purser of the *Speedwell*, attending to satisfy the Lords (upon the complaint of Mr. Jones¹), touching his proceedings against Ferman his steward, shews that he did imprison the said Ferman in June last for forging of a ticket, and that he indicted him for the same in July, being the next sessions, where he was accordingly proceeded against; where he appeared not, as being fled with his bail, and was taken again, on Sunday last was a fortnight, in bed at 12 of the clock at night in a room where there was another bed with two women in it, and that he remains at this day a prisoner upon this indictment. All which approved by ample written vouchers.

Mr. Mills also, purser of the *Reserve*, being complained of by Mr. Jones for his having imprisoned his steward Grandon in the *Counter* in revenge for his steward's information against him, as he alleges Switscher had done his, and this day attending to satisfy the Lords therein, shews that he had commenced his suit against the said Grandon 3 months ago, giving the like state of his case in writing.

After which Mr. Jones being called in, and it being opened to him that the grounds of the said Ferman and Grandon's imprisonment could not probably be in revenge for the late discoveries by them made against their pursers, in regard that the said pursers' proceedings were in time of elder date to that of their discoveries, Jones replied that he could not tell the certain time of the said prisoners making their first discoveries, but that Nicholas his clerk could, who being called in and demanded, answered, about 5 weeks ago, whereas Switscher had begun his suit 8 months and Mills his 3 months since. Whereto Jones replying, said that Ferman was the first that did discover the cheats in the proof whereof he is concerned, but that if his testimony will not be taken he had since found out others that will.

¹ See 10th February.

Jones further saith that he is able to prove that Ferman did declare to several persons that he would discover cheats of the purser's before he began openly to accuse him, and one Turton being called in did declare that he had seen a list of those cheats, drawn up by Ferman, in March last at St. Martin's, but that he could not say that Switsher the purser did ever know of it.

Then as to Grandon, Nicholas affirms that he began to make his discoveries afore Christmas last.

The whole of this matter ended, with their Lordships' directions to Mr. Jones to bring them some written signification of the promise he pretends to from his Majesty of pardon of all offences to these two, and the rest, whoever they be, that are employed by him in this work.

After which the Lords signed and gave to Mr. Jones at the Board their letter with the form drawn up by Mr. Pepys by their command of the account they expect from him of his disbursements made, persons employed, and services done, with the profits accruing to his Majesty therefrom, on this occasion, Which he received and promised his conformity thereto.

Several of Mr. Jones's men being then called in, and their desires expressed of their being supplied with money, their Lordships ordered £50 to be imprested into the hand of Mr. Holmes, one of the Speaker's servants, to be by him disbursed upon account, according to such lists as he should from time to time receive from this Board.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1674[-5]

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Treasurer; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty with the letters he had newly received from Sir John Narbrough, giving an account of his proceedings at Argier to the redemption of all the English captives there and the putting of all matters into condition of full satisfaction with that Government, But leaving something wherein his Majesty's further consideration and direction to him would be

needful ; the further debate thereon was respite to the arrival of Mr. Brisbane,¹ who is upon his way thence homewards overland.

FEBRUARY 20, 1674[-5]

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain · Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Speaker gives his Majesty and my Lords an account of a letter he had received from Jones, wherein he denies his delivering up the copies of books which he hath in his hands² ; whereupon the inconveniencies being again opened to his Majesty of the said books remaining with him, It was again² RESOLVED, that no more books should, upon any pretence, be delivered him, and a letter thereupon signed to the Officers of the Navy directing the same.

Mr. Speaker further informed his Majesty that, by what he could observe at his being present at so much of Mr. Jones's pretended discoveries as had yet been examined, every penny his Majesty would save by them would cost him a pound, alleging that by what yet appeared Captain Pyend, commander of the English Ruby,³ had kept his books very well and laudably.

The Officers of the Navy were directed to send somebody forthwith, and without warning, with an order to Mr. Jones to require him immediately to deliver up the copies of what books he had in his hands.

The deputy-purser of the Stavoreen, one Boylston, being represented by Mr. Speaker as very faulty in what related to the books of that ship, an order was presently drawn and signed for his commitment to the Marshal's.

My Lord Inchiquin's⁴ desire being considered for his having a liberty, when he should see cause, of borrowing for the use of the garrison any quantity of provisions

¹ See note on p. 98 above.

² See 13th February.

³ The Ruby, a 4th-rate, is thus referred to in order to avoid confusion with the French Ruby, a 2nd-rate.

⁴ Governor of Tangier, in succession to the Earl of Middleton.

out of the stores lodged at Tangier for the use of the navy (upon pretence that in a time of strait such a power is found to have been given formerly to the Earl of Middleton) and Mr. Pepys opening to his Majesty and the Lords the ill use that has and may further be made thereof by commanders raising a pretence therefrom to spend their time in the going to remoter ports upon errands of their own and disappointment of his Majesty's service for supplies of victuals ; and the Lord Privy Seal observing also in how full a condition the stores of victuals at that place at this day are and are like to be continued ; It was RESOLVED, That the said motion of the Lord Inchiquin ought not to be granted.

According to the late summons made by my Lords of one Brookes of Sussex to answer a complaint made by Mr. Holsted and other gentlemen of that county of the trouble they met with from the said Brookes upon occasion of some proceedings of theirs in support of the Admiral's rights within that Vice-Admiralty by questioning the said Brookes, among others, for embezzlements and other crimes by him committed upon occasion of a wreck falling within the Vice-Admiralty of Sussex ; The said Brookes attends with counsel, denying the fact of embezzling any goods belonging to the Admiral, pleading that he is by trade a wheelwright, and as so only employed by Mr. Westbrook, lord of the manor. After which, several depositions being read proving him concerned among others in the carrying away of goods from the said wreck, he could not deny the same, but pretending that what he did therein was only in behalf and by order of the said lord of the manor, did humbly ask his Majesty's pardon, submitting to what his Majesty should determine concerning him. Who being graciously pleased to remit the said Brookes's offence, upon condition of his letting fall his suit against the said Mr. Holsted, etc., and restoring what goods (if any) should be found to have been by him particularly embezzled to his own use, and lastly, that he do make oath of his being hired by the said lord of the manor to the carrying away of any part of the said goods (which he acknowledgeth to have done notwithstanding he at the same time knew that they were then under seizure by the officers of the Vice-Admiralty in

behalf of the King) ; he undertook to do the same, and was thereupon dismissed.

Captain Tyte, commander of the Richmond yacht, informing his Majesty and my Lords of one Collins,¹ master of an English merchantman come from the Canaries, who, meeting with his Majesty's said yacht in the Hope, neglected to strike thereto, and refused to pay for the shot which Captain Tyte made at him for the forcing him to strike, for which Captain Tyte had taken away his poop-lantern and then detaining it ; Collins was called in, and acknowledged that he did not strike time enough, but that it did not arise from want of duty but from his being himself at the time busy, and the neglect of his people whom he had (as he offered witness to prove it) given charge to strike ; Denying also that he ever refused to pay for the shot, but that from the want of money (which he had not then on board) he could not ; The truth of which assertions on both sides his Majesty was pleased to refer to the examination of the Officers of the Navy, upon whose report his Majesty would signify his further pleasure concerning it.

RESOLVED, That Mr. Pike be admitted with another vessel to the business of wool-catching upon the terms last agreed with him in the case of the John of Dover, and upon bond by him now given answerable to what he hath formerly in reference to the said John of Dover, lately lost.

ORDERED, that 10s. a man be further supplied to Mr. Jones's men.²

FEBRUARY 27, 1674[-5]

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Upon a proposition made from the Committee of Plantations touching the expediency of having the vessels now bound to Surinam put in, in their way thither, to the Cape Verde³ Islands for salt, upon an opinion that the same might facilitate the removal of his Majesty's

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2093.

² See 13th February.

³ MS. 'Cape de Verde.'

subjects from that colony by enabling them to remove in salt such of their cattle as they could not otherwise dispose of alive ; It was, with the advice of the Officers of the Navy, judged wholly inconvenient in regard of the loss of charge and time which the same might occasion, and that if nevertheless the carrying of salt should be found so necessary, it were better to carry it at any rate hence than to suffer the ships to go so far out of their way for it ; an account thereof is to be transmitted to Sir Robert Southwell forthwith for the information of the Lords of the Committee, which was immediately done by a letter from Mr. Pepys to him,¹ writ at the Board.

A letter from Sir John Duteil of the [blank], noting his arrival with the galley at [blank].

A protection granted to Captain Tyrwhitt for the securing him during his attendance upon the examination of the books of the Adventure, whereof he was commander, and for the enabling him to justify himself against Mr. Jones's accusations therein.²

Mr. Speaker proposes that some way may be found for the regular punishing of such commanders, pursers, or others, as being accused by Mr. Jones shall upon examination be found guilty of the frauds charged upon them ; the method thereof is referred to the Secretary of the Admiralty to consider of and report to their Lordships his opinion in, upon advice had with the Officers of the Navy about it.

Mr. Jones attending, the Lords demand of him his answer of their late letter,² and scheme of account, which he promises to give them in a very little time.

Upon a petition of one Pew and Wildman, who had been committed to the Marshal's upon arresting of one Gooking, who is at present employed in his Majesty's service on board the Bezan, they were discharged, they having first discharged the said Gooking ; Their Lordships did at the same time condemn Captain Day of the Bezan for the entertaining a person on board him only of freeing the said person from arrests, and obliging the said captain either forthwith to discharge him his employment or to undertake for him to his creditors that their

¹ *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2108.

² See 13th February.

debts shall be paid out of the said Gooking's wages to their satisfaction.

Lady Duteil's bill of £50 to be paid.

The Lords, with the advice of the Navy Officers, do not allow of the granting contingent money to a single ship bound on a foreign voyage, and therefore deny it to Captain Dickenson, commander of the *Hunter*, bound to Surinam.

The Lords are informed of Captain Idle's wholly declining to solicit the King or them further for any bounty or gratuity pretended to by him for his bold undertaking in bringing away the ship *Bachelor* from Cadiz, but betaking himself to what shall be found rightfully his due for his disbursements upon and freight for the same.

Boylston, deputy-purser of the *Stavoreen*, lately committed to the Marshalsea upon Mr. Jones's information, praying to be discharged, is denied by the Lords in order to his further punishment.

Mr. Parker petitioning the Lords for some favourable answer to his late numerous propositions¹ of manning and discharging a fleet without money, etc., the vanity whereof was lately opened to their Lordships by a large report thereon from the Officers of the Navy, The Lords think fit to give no other answer thereto, as being satisfied in the extravagancy and impracticableness of the said proposals, saving that if he shall desire (as he seems to do) a purser's employment, he may apply himself for the same to his Majesty, wherein he shall have their furtherance in order to his making proof of what he can do in that employment in reference to such part of the said proposals as may properly fall in trial within the same.

The letter of thanks from the body of the French merchants at St. Malo for the justice some time since done them by the Lords in causing Captain Harris of the *Constant Warwick* to refund so much of the freight as he had exacted from them, for the bringing of their money from Cadiz, above the rate of 1 per

¹ See 16th January.

cent. set by the King and Council,¹ was read and well accepted.

The report of the Navy Officers also read touching the differencies between the Governor of Sheerness and the navy officers there,² respited till his Majesty shall be present and the Governor here to make his defence.

Lord Privy Seal desires Mr. Pepys to look over the old books of the Admiralty to see if anything can be found for the informing him in any of the ancient transactions and instructions about Newfoundland.

The report of the Navy Board read, about carpenters being borne on the King's ships,³ and judged reasonable, but respited to be determined in until the King shall be present.

Lord Brouncker, in the name of the rest, reports to my Lords the good services of the late Commissioners for Widows and Orphans of Seamen slain during the late war,⁴ deserving his Majesty's knowledge and some reward; Referred also to his Majesty's being present.

Sarah Rice, widow of John Rice, late boatswain of the *Lion* fireship, applies for her husband's wages.

The report of the Navy Board being read touching the business of chips in his Majesty's yards,⁵ and propounding that since by a combination among the parties interested in the advantage arising from the continuance of the old practice of permitting the workmen to carry away the chips from thence nobody has been found (at the late exposing of them for sale) offering to buy them, the said chips, which has by virtue of their Lordships' late order been for some time together gathered up at the King's charge, and now at length arisen to such a quantity as to become dangerous to be longer kept there undisposed ⁶ of, may be carried out of the yard by the labourers and there either burnt or left to the poor of the town promiscuously for their own use: RESOLVED, that they (that is to say, the small chips and shavings, the greater which are fit for the pitch-kettle being

¹ By an order of 30th July, 1673 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 189).

² See 28th November.

³ See 23rd December.

⁴ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 134.

⁵ See 31st October.

⁶ MS. 'unexposed.'

to be kept for that use) be accordingly carried out of the King's yard and there left to the poor of the neighbourhood, to be taken away by them either promiscuously or in such method as the Officers of the Navy shall, upon advising with the officers of the parish, judge most convenient.

Mr. Pett's¹ application for leave to build the flyboat at Woodbridge instead of Ipswich referred to the Navy Board for a report.

The Officers of the Navy are directed by the Lords to hasten all they can the finishing the examination now on foot of Mr. Jones's discoveries,² in order to the bringing to punishment, either by a court-martial or otherwise, such as should be found truly guilty of the frauds charged upon them thereby.

Mr. Jones also himself attending this day for more money, RESOLVED, that a further payment be presently made at 10s. per head to so many persons as Mr. Jones shall by a list deliver in the names of to Mr. Pepys.

Mr. Speaker acquainted the Board with his purpose of going this day out of town with intention of staying in the country for some time, Desiring that their Lordships would during his absence by some one of the[ir] number be present in his room at Mr. Jones's examination.

RESOLVED, That the case of Anderson, lately detected by Sir Thomas Allin³ at the pay office in Broad Street personating another man, for which being indicted at Guild Hall in January last and there acquitted by the jury, notwithstanding the Court's satisfaction in the fulness of the evidence against him, be drawn up and stated to the Attorney-General by Mr. Pepys in order to the seeing what further may be done towards obtaining right for his Majesty therein.

MARCH 3, 1674[-5]

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

Mr. Pepys acquainting the Lords with his having newly received from Mr. Secretary Coventry a paper

¹ Phineas Pett, master-shipwright at Chatham.

² See 13th February.

³ Comptroller of the navy.

containing the advice of the Commissioners of the Customs touching the business of passes, in pursuance of the discourse on that subject lately had with them by their Lordships at the Treasury Chamber; ORDERED, that he do confer with some able merchants concerning the same, and report to their Lordships their opinion thereon. Mr. Pepys is directed to move his Majesty for a meeting before him on Saturday next, for the determining some business proper for his presence.

Upon the petition of Mr. Southwood, master some time since of one of his Majesty's ships, the *Falcon*, which running on ground, and the fault thereof found by a court-martial to be chargeable on his mate, but not so but that he also is charged with so much neglect as that the court thought fit to declare him unfit of any future charge (which nevertheless he hath been since called to during the late war in some of the best ships of England, as being a man of known abilities equal to most men) and sentenced to have his wages stopped at the pleasure of his Royal Highness, then Lord High Admiral, for the payment of which wages he by this petition makes his address to my Lords; and the opinion of his Royal Highness being lately asked by Mr. Pepys in this matter, and by him communicated now to their Lordships to be, that the neglect of the said master at that time was so remarkable as that it ought not to pass uncorrected by the loss of his wages, as being the only correction appointed by the court-martial which he is likely to feel; RESOLVED, that the stop upon his wages is not to be taken off, but that he finally lose the same.

Fresh applications of Alice¹ Rice for her late husband's wages.

Upon reading other letters, one from the Lieutenant of Deal Castle touching a small vessel by him secured upon a suggestion of her being a pirate; The considering of the inducements leading the said Lieutenant thereto referred to the Judge of the Admiralty, with whom Mr. Pepys is to confer about it.

Upon a gentleman's applying himself to the Lords, and particularly the Lord Privy Seal (to whom only he was

¹ 'Sarah' on p. 156.

known) for an order extraordinary for the present payment of a parcel of tickets by him then presented to their view; RESOLVED, That no extraordinary order is to be given in the case, but that they wait the course of payment.

Upon application made to my Lords by Captain Blake, master of a merchantman, for restoring of his boat, which had been taken away from him by Captain Tyte of the Richmond yacht, upon pretence of not striking to the King's flag, and sent into the King's stores at Deptford, which neglect the said Captain Blake denies, and in his justification brought two persons of credit then on board him, who satisfied the Lords, both by discourse and writing under their hands, touching the behaviour of the said Captain Blake; RESOLVED, That the boat be forthwith restored, Captain Blake undertaking to answer for the said neglect at any time hereafter when he shall be called to it after the return of Captain Tyte from the voyage he was then bound out upon.¹

Mr. Pepys acquainting the Lords with the answer he had received from the Mayor of Falmouth touching the French ship[s] lately seen to the westward, and which in the passing by Captain Wood in the Bonadventure refused to strike to the King's flag, and by out-sailing her passed away clear without striking; RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys do prepare a memorial of the whole matter, containing a description of the said ship[s], to be put into the hands of one of the Secretaries of [State] in order to a complaint to be made thereof in the Court of France.

MARCH 6, 1674[-5]

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Navy Officers attending.]

His Royal Highness was this day pleased to present his Majesty with a petition of Sir Robert Robinson's wherein he prays that forasmuch as although by his not having the command of a 1st or 2nd-rate ship or

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2112, 2115, 2118.

the wearing of a flag in the fleet he is not by the late establishment¹ entitled to the half-pay allowed to commanders so qualified during the vacancy of employment, yet having by his Majesty's favour and with his approbation gone through as considerable charges by having the chief command of several considerable squadrons of ships to Gottenburg during the first war, and others since, he submits it to his Majesty and my Lords of the Admiralty to consider whether such as he may not in the dignity of his employment and trust be entitled to the same mark of his favour by an allowance of half-pay as the others have ; And the reasonableness of this his request being fully debated, RESOLVED, That in the present case of Sir Robert Robinson and for the time to come hereafter, it be established, That whoever shall, by a special commission to be given him by his Majesty to that purpose, have the command in chief of 12 men-of-war besides fireships and small craft, shall be entitled to the allowance of half-pay during peace and vacancy of employment, in the same manner and to the same value as a rear-admiral of a fleet is by the late aforesaid establishment entitled to.²

His Royal Highness acquainting his Majesty that Captain Harris hath never yet received the medal usually given by his Majesty as a reward to captains of fireships who acquitted themselves well and successfully in time of engagement³ ; It was referred to Mr. Pepys to inquire into the matter of fact therein, to the end, if he hath not already, the said captain may receive the reward due to him equal with what hath been given to any other in the like case. Which done, his Royal Highness was pleased to withdraw.

The Lord Inchiquin, now going Governor to Tangier, having propounded to his Majesty the sending of a ketch or some other small vessel to attend constantly the necessary occasions of the garrison, offering to victual and man the same out of the establishment of the garrison

¹ Of 6th May and 26th June, 1674 : see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 145-6.

² This arrangement, with a slight modification, was established by order in council of 19th May, 1675 (see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 147).

³ See 5th December.

without other increase of charge attending the same than the wear and tear of the said vessel; and his Majesty, approving of the said propositions, was now pleased to declare it his pleasure that the same be put in practice, by their Lordships causing some ketch or other small vessel to be fitted forth for that service accordingly.

His Majesty being moved that the Governor of Sheerness might be sent for up, to be conferred with about the accommodating the present disagreements between him and the officers and workmen of the navy there,¹ his Majesty was pleased to agree thereto, and that the same be done so soon as he shall be returned from Newmarket, himself intending to be present at the hearing of it.

Mr. Pepys presenting in a memorial and the extract of a letter from Sir John Duteil² from Marseilles, shewing the courtesy he had lately received there from the King of France's *surintendant* in the supplying him with several particulars whereof the King's galley stood in need, and this without accepting of any payment for the same, the said memorial was put into the hands of Mr. Secretary Coventry, in order to his taking notice thereof by way of acknowledgment on behalf of his Majesty to Monsieur Ruvigny.³

Mr. Pepys informing the Board that upon advising with the Judge of the Admiralty there doth not appear any sufficient pretence for the detaining the vessel lately seized on for a pirate by the officer of Deal Castle⁴; It was RESOLVED, and his Majesty at the same time signed a warrant to the said officer for her discharge, taking care that no subjects of his Majesty's be permitted to sail in her.

Mr. Pepys, according to the late direction of the Lords,⁴ presenting another memorial relating to the business of the French ships not striking to the Bon-adventure; His Majesty and the Lords, considering that the said memorial did not contain matter enough to convict the commanders of either of the said ships in case they shall think fit to deny it, did rather choose to direct, and accordingly it was directed, by letters to be

¹ See 27th February.

² See note on p. 15 above.

³ The Marquis de Ruvigny was the French Ambassador.

⁴ See 3rd March.

to that purpose written to Falmouth and Plymouth for stopping the said French men-of-war, if any of them shall happen to come again into either of their ports, until the business shall be examined and satisfaction by them given to his Majesty in what (if anything) can be sufficiently proved upon them of the indignity complained of by Captain Wood, commander of the Bonadventure.

His Majesty's pleasure being asked touching the present method of sheathing with lead,¹ upon occasion of the Navy Officers' late report upon their observations of the foul condition wherein the Eagle is returned from Guinea, her bilge (where the scrubbers could not come to clean her) being overgrown with the great barnacles, not to be got off with breaming² nor otherwise removed than by tearing of the lead; His Majesty was pleased to respite the determining anything to the prejudice of the said method of sheathing until the return of the Phoenix from thence, which is supposed upon her way homeward.

The Navy Board's report being read touching the present girdling of the Royal Prince, giving their opinion that the same is sufficient, though it comes not wholly up to the fullness his Majesty had now designed it, the doing whereof would be a matter of great charge; The King was pleased to declare his satisfaction therein, and that there should be no more done to her.

His Majesty being moved for a declaration of his pleasure touching some provisions to be made for the masters of the 1st-rate ships, the greatness of whose trusts and smallness of the number of persons qualified for the discharge of the same, seem to call for equal encouragements to be provided for them by an allowance of half-pay during the peace, suitable to what by the late establishment is settled for the commanders³; His Majesty, with the advice of the Lords, was pleased to resolve upon it as a matter most reasonable, and that for the masters [of] not only the 1st but 2nd-rate also, Directing

¹ On the experiments with lead sheathing, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, ii. p. xxxiv, and iii. p. xlvii.

² Clearing a ship's bottom of shells or seaweed by using burning reeds, etc., to soften the pitch.

³ By order in council of 6th May, 1674 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 146).

Mr. Pepys to prepare a memorial on that behalf to be presented for confirmation at the Council Board¹ at his coming back from Newmarket.

The Navy Board's report being read, touching the account of Captain Carverth's disbursements in maintaining of the witnesses during their attendance in town upon the trial of the Ostend caper; RESOLVED, that the same be allowed him according to the said report, saving to the two persons therein mentioned who refused the offer of the said Navy Officers to be kept in some employment here during their said attendance.

Among other papers signed by his Majesty this day at the Board, one was a warrant for old Mr. Bostock to be master-joiner of his Majesty's yard at Chatham, void by the late death of his son William Bostock, who had some years since been put into that employment upon the removal of his said father for some neglect wherewith he was then charged by Commissioner Middleton, but by his behaviour since has gained such a character from all the officers of that yard (by certificates to that purpose now read to his Majesty and my Lords) and from the Principal Officers of the Navy now attending, as that his Majesty and their Lordships were led with all satisfaction to restore him to his said former employment.

RESOLVED, That forasmuch as his Majesty hath been lately pleased to raise the wages of the ordinary of the navy in harbour to the same with their wages at sea,² they be obliged for the time to come to the same duty and attendance in a constant lodging on board (for the greater safety of his Majesty's ships in port) as is expected from them while the ship is abroad.

MARCH 16, 1674[-5]

[At Newmarket. *Present*: The King; Duke of York³; Prince Rupert; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Upon letters received by Mr. Pepys newly from Sir John Narbrough from the Bay of Tunis, giving an account

¹ The order in council confirming this is dated 19th May, 1675 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 147).

² See 30th June and 3rd July.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2134.

of his proceedings with that Government to a confirmation of the late Treaty and receiving all marks of friendship from them, with his purpose of departing thence forthwith towards Tripoli, of whose breach with his Majesty he had then been advised . . . It was RESOLVED, That [the King's] resolution taken in those former instructions should be still pursued, in Sir John Narbrough's insisting upon restitutions or proceeding to an absolute declaration of war against that people, The honour of his Majesty and his treaties with the neighbour governments of Argier and Tunis making the same necessary; And that therefore instructions be forthwith directed to Livorne. . . . And that for the bettering of his force all that may be for the readier reducing of that people to terms of reason, orders be immediately sent, as well to Livorne as Cadiz, for the stopping of the ships named in the margin now in those seas from coming home, and leaving them to follow the orders of Sir John Narbrough. RESOLVED likewise, that the Guernsey, now going with the Lord Inchiquin to Tangier, be directed when there to find out Sir John Narbrough and follow his orders with the rest.

[*Margin* : Diamond, Dragon, Maryrose, Newcastle, Success.]

According to which resolutions, orders were prepared by Mr. Pepys so as being signed by his Majesty the next morning, March 17th, he returned with them immediately to London and dispatched them away by the post the 18th.¹

MARCH 27, 1675

Upon intimation sent from my Lord Privy Seal that a meeting of the Lords should be called for to-morrow morning, and summons being accordingly issued to all the Lords then in town, the Lord Privy Seal only came, and at the same time an Order from the Council Board (the subject whereof was the occasion of this meeting) referring to the Lords of the Admiralty's examination of a matter brought yesterday to the Council Board

¹ For these see *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2141-2147.

relating to some cordage and other goods of his Majesty's pretended to have been embezzled, and those embezzlements discovered by Peter Gale and Vincent Harrod ; His Lordship, after some stay, departed with direction that an order might be prepared and got signed by a quorum of the Board, transmitting all the papers appertaining to the said business to the Officers of the Navy, as being most proper for their enquiry ; Upon whose report wherein their Lordships would then be enabled to determine what shall appear reasonable concerning it.

MARCH 28, 1675

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's office.]

Mr. Pepys having received a letter from the Officers of the Navy, intimating that Simon Orton,¹ who was master of the hired ship the *Hercules*, lately hired from Surinam, when the said ship was first propounded to be taken up for that service, and thereupon hath his name put down in the Dutch passes as master of the said ship, has been since by her owners removed and one George Broad put by the owners into his room, And therefore that it must be of some cost extraordinary to his Majesty that the said Orton can be now sent, in case for the sake of the said passes and his name used therein it should be still thought necessary for him to go, which charge the Officers of the Navy say will be £40 ; Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty, my Lord Keeper, Lord Treasurer, Duke [of] Lauderdale, and the two Secretaries of State being present, this day for his pleasure therein, where it was thought advisable that Orton should be sent, though at this extraordinary charge, rather than give the Dutch the advantage of making any ill use thereof, in case the present master taking upon him the name of Orton should be discovered therein. And the same ORDERED to be made known by Mr. Pepys to the Officers of the Navy.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2153, 2154, 2170.

MARCH 29, 1675

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's office. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys being sent for, was commanded by his Majesty (and a note on that behalf delivered him by Mr. Secretary Coventry) to take care that orders may be lodged, in the most effectual but silent way that may be, for the seizing of a certain Ostend man-of-war called the Eustace, Pasqual de More captain, and bring her as high as Sheerness, there to remain till further orders; The same being grounded on some information brought to his Majesty this morning by Captain Sanderson of indignities offered by the said Ostender to his Majesty by his denying to strike to his flag, and that in terms and a manner very derogatory to his Majesty's honour in these seas, a particular account whereof Captain Sanderson is to be directed to deliver in in writing, signed by himself and his officers.¹

TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 1675

A message being brought to the Secretary of the Admiralty from his Majesty by Mr. Chevins² (accompanied by Mr. Nicholas Warren and Mr. Peter Barr, merchants) for his present waiting on his Majesty for his orders about the appointing a yacht forthwith for the carrying part of the St.³ Malo's money lately brought hither by Captain Harman, and in the disposal whereof these gentlemen are particularly interested, from hence directly to Havre de Grâce; His Majesty was accordingly attended in company with them, where his Majesty, being informed by the said Secretary that he had already, at his late being at Newmarket, appointed the Greyhound for the doing of that service on behalf of all the interested, which might, with much more convenience to his Majesty as well as safety to the merchants, be still done by

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2172.

² On William Chiffinch, the king's closet-keeper and confidential agent, see *D. N. B.* x. 238.

³ MS. 'said.'

accommodating them with a yacht to carry the whole money down for them to the Greyhound now riding in the Downs ; His Majesty was pleased to approve and order the same, to the full satisfaction of the said merchants, and accordingly the same was done by a letter of intimation from the Secretary of the Admiralty the 31st to the Portsmouth yacht for the getting her in a readiness for this work, and orders from his Majesty of the 1st of April both to her and the Greyhound for the complete execution of this service.

APRIL 3, 1675

[*Present* : Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Pepys acquaints the Lords with what lately passed between Captain Sanderson in the Portsmouth yacht and an Ostend man-of-war upon the said Ostender's refusing to strike, and that the same was by his Majesty referred to Sir Leo. Jenkins to take the examination of from the said captain and his officers upon oath, in order to his further proceeding towards the doing himself right therein.¹

Letters read from Captain Wetwang and Sir Roger Strickland, 'giving an account of their proceedings in the Straits.'

A letter being read from the Navy Officers, giving an account of an embezzlement discovered of the lead of the Dartmouth's bread-room, whose boatswain (of whom they otherwise give a good character) denies his being privy to it, and charges it upon his and the rest of the officers' boys ; And their Lordships moreover considering as well the ship's being upon the point of going to sea under Captain Trevanion, as that the Navy Officers do declare that they cannot prove the embezzlement upon him otherwise than that the said lead was by the rules of the navy to be esteemed within his charge while the ship lay in harbour ; It was RESOLVED, That the said boatswain should not be dealt withal as if immediately guilty (which would require his being discharged his employment and further punished) but be answerable

¹ See 29th March ; also *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2190.

to his Majesty out of his wages or otherwise for the full value of the goods lost,¹ leaving him to the repairing himself from the master of the said boys, or who else he shall find chargeable with the embezzlement.

Upon reading another report from the Navy Officers touching Morgan and Parry, seamen lately serving in the *St. David*, the former above 15, the latter above 18 months, and both of them duly appearing at their musters both before and after her coming home, saving for the space of 9 days the latter and 11 days the former ; And their Lordships considering the severity it would bear with it that a year and a half's service, and that in time of war, should be forfeited for so few days absence after a ship's coming in to be laid up, and yet, on the other hand, the consequence it may be of to his Majesty to favour in any kind the seaman's deserting of his service, especially in time of war, when ships are brought in to be speedily set out again ; It was not judged advisable by the Lords to determine anything therein themselves, but respite^d it to be debated before his Majesty,—especially the statute² declaring the deserting of the service (without any limitation of time) punishable with death. Their Lordships nevertheless seem inclined to advise that forasmuch by the ancient practice of the navy the fleets were supposed to be always called in at the end of six months, the service of the whole year being divided into the summer and winter guard, it may be thought a reasonable limitation that the keeping of them out longer for the sake of the King's occasions should not turn to the detriment of the seaman, so as to expose him to the forfeiture of more wages than he could do in case he had been regularly paid at the determination of every six months.

Application for chaplain's wages on behalf of one not in orders who acted as chaplain of the *Assistance* refused.

RESOLVED, That a transcript of the whole proceedings in the trial of and sentence passed lately upon the *Ostender*³ at the Sessions of Oyer and Terminer for the Admiralty in the Old Bailey, be demanded of the Register

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2196.

² 13 Car. II. c. 9.

³ See 13th January.

of the Admiralty, to remain among the records of the Lord Admiral, and that the Judge of the Admiralty also be wrote to, to put down in writing (if he hath not already done it) and communicate the same in writing to their Lordships all the particular questions arising before, and the determinations thereon by the judges (with the grounds of their said determinations) as well previous to as during the said trial, and the judgment given thereon.

Navy Officers report about the dividing the reward some time since given by his Majesty to Ward and Merry, etc., upon account of some misbehaviours by them discovered among some of the workmen at Woolwich yard, about the dividing whereof the several discoverers do disagree. RESOLVED, That the said reward be divided according to the partition propounded in the said report.

RESOLVED also, in relation to the latter part of the said report, touching the parties upon whom the said misbehaviours were proved, that the punishment heretofore assigned them, and particularly that of the loss of their wages, be not remitted them, notwithstanding that it does appear that the information against them did arise rather from some private grudges between themselves than barely for the benefit of his Majesty.

The Navy Officers' letter read touching the ground which is to be delivered up to the King in the river of Rochester in compensation of the charge the King is to be at in securing the said river against the injuries that may arise thereto from a certain breach happening some years since within the said ground, Which ground his Majesty is pleased to bestow upon the Chest at Chatham, and in order thereto the Navy Officers propound that the conveyances of the said ground may be made immediately to the Chest and not to his Majesty, for the saving the charge of having them inrolled in Chancery, which will (as they say) cost more than 4 or 5 years' profit of the said land; Mr. Pepys is directed to move his Majesty for his pleasure therein.

A letter being read from Mr. Brouncker, purser of the Unicorn at Chatham,¹ complaining of abuses by him received from the cook of the said ship, and of his being

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xxxix.

without cause shewn confined as a prisoner on board the Sovereign by warrant from Commissioner Beach ; ORDERED, That the said Commissioner be by a letter directed to give their Lordships an account of this whole matter and his proceedings therein.

Mr. Pepys desiring the direction of the Lords in relation to the form of the passes now agreed on by the late Treaty marine,¹ in relation to those words thereof which seem to require the master of each vessel for which a pass is desired to appear in person before them (which, through the difficulty of rendering it practicable more than twice a week at most at their public meetings, would occasion great delay) ; RESOLVED, that their coming hither to the Office of the Admiralty, and the parties appearing to the Secretary thereof in the absence of the Lords, shall suffice as a ground for the Secretary's preparing the pass ; And also, that the oath being made before a master in chancery or known justice of peace is to be accepted, the words of the Treaty not obliging it to be taken before the Lords.

RESOLVED also, That the Secretary of the Admiralty do, as far as in him lies, see the cautions used by the Commissioners of the Customs, and contained in a paper by them lately given in to my Lord Treasurer, be observed in the issuing of the passes from their Lordships.

Mr. Jones attending the Lords with much importunity for more money, and with a paper offered by him as an answer to the order some time since given him by their Lordships² with a scheme prepared for him for the method of his answers to their several inquiries therein, which papers so now by him offered being found very short of satisfying the Lords, and particularly in that he did insist³ upon having protections and further allowances of money for persons whose names do not at all appear in the said paper, and much less the services they are by him employed on and the other circumstances which by the scheme given him by the Lords he is directed in the method of his account to give them particular information in ; Their Lordships were pleased

¹ A copy of the 'marine treaty' of 1674 with the Dutch is among the State Papers (see *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1675-6, p. 484).

² See 13th February.

³ MS. 'did not insist.'

to give him back the said paper, with directions to complete the same, so far as he would be thought capable of doing it, Upon which their Lordships will proceed from time to time to the directing, to what persons his Majesty's service shall require, the continuing or granting any protections or supplies of money, resolving to do neither the one nor the other to any persons from this time forward whose names shall not be entered within the said list to be delivered in under Mr. Jones's hand, with such informations touching each person and in such manner as is directed by the particular columns required by the Lords in their aforesaid scheme. And this to be signified to Mr. Jones in writing, albeit he was present at the debate and the said resolution taken thereon.

Mr. Speaker informing the Lords that, having personally attended to the examinations of the ships' books¹ on which Mr. Jones pretends to his having discovered many foul frauds to the prejudice of his Majesty, It doth fully appear that Thomas Lynch, purser of the *Adventure*, and Samuel Switsher,² purser of the *Speedwell*, are guilty of many of the frauds discovered by the said Jones upon the books of those two ships, after their being fully heard before him to their defence; And it being further considered by my Lords that both the ships are at this time ordered forth to sea, and that therefore, though the said pursers have not yet been proceeded against judicially, either before a court-martial or the Lord Admiral, yet enough doth appear to them from the report of Mr. Speaker to render them unfit to be trusted further by his Majesty until they have acquitted themselves of what doth so appear, which cannot be done before the ships go to sea, Mr. Pepys was directed to represent the said pursers to his Majesty from their Lordships as unfit to be continued in their employments, in order to his Majesty appointing some others to the same.

The balance of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's account to be paid, 'their Lordships considering the want there may be' of his 'presence at Livorne upon the rupture likely to be between his Majesty and the people of Tripoli.'

¹ See 20th February.

² MS. 'Swister,' but see p. 149.

*Memorandum for the Council*¹

His Majesty having taken into consideration that the greatness of the trust reposed in the masters which serve in his great ships, and the small number of persons qualified for the discharge of the same, doth seem to require that for their encouragement some provision be made for them while they shall be out of his Majesty's service suitable to what is by the late establishment settled on the commanders serving in his great ships, is pleased to declare his pleasure that an allowance shall be made and paid quarterly by the Treasurer of the Navy (by bill to be to that purpose from time to time made out by the Principal Officers and Commissioners thereof) to several persons now living who have served as masters in his Majesty's ships of the 1st and 2nd rate within the last war to the value of half the pay usually allowed by his Majesty unto the said masters respectively in time of service, the same to commence from Lady Day 1674,² and to continue so long as they shall remain unprovided for to the value of the like half-pay, either by some new employment in his Majesty's service or by any pension, annuity, or other benefit which already is or may hereafter be conferred by his Majesty upon any of the said masters respectively, in which case it is to be understood that where the said future employment, pension, annuity, or other benefit shall fall short in value of the half-pay hereby granted, the same is to be made up to the said masters by bills from the said Principal Officers and Commissioners, payable by the Treasurer of the Navy as aforesaid, for so much as will raise the profit of the said employment or other benefit to the value of the said half-pay and no more. As also that this his Majesty's bounty is to be rated according to the master's pay of the biggest ship of his Majesty's wherein the said masters shall have respectively served. Provided, that no such master shall go abroad in any

¹ The orders in council based on this memorandum, dated 19th May, 1675, are entered in *Naval Precedents* (*Pepysian MSS.*, No. 2867), pp. 165, 167. See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 147).

² Apparently the allowance was to be retrospective to the date when half-pay began for captains of 1st and 2nd-rates.

merchant's or other private service without his Majesty's licence first had and obtained.

A petition having been presented unto his Majesty by Sir Robert Robinson, knight, setting forth that having not had the honour of wearing a flag in his Majesty's service, nor of being a commander of a 1st or 2nd-rate ship, he finds not himself entitled either to the pensions or allowance of half-pay by his Majesty's late establishment settled upon commanders so qualified during their being out of employment, Yet forasmuch as by his Majesty's favour and with his approbation he hath gone through considerable charges by having had the chief command of several considerable squadrons of ships, both in the former and latter war with the Dutch, he humbly submits it to his Majesty whether as such he may not by the dignity of his said employments and trusts be entitled to the same allowance with the officers aforementioned ; his Majesty was graciously pleased to declare his pleasure, That in the present case of Sir Robert Robinson, and others of the like nature to come, it be established that whoever shall either appear to have already had, or hereafter by a special commission from his Majesty or the Lord High Admiral's have, the command in chief of 12 of his Majesty's ships of war, over and above fireships and other small craft, shall be entitled to and receive, during such time as he shall [be] out of his Majesty's service at sea, the same pension or allowance of half-pay, and on the same terms and conditions, as the said pension or allowance is granted to a rear-admiral of a squadron by his Majesty's said late establishment.

APRIL 18, 1675

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Keeper ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Arlington ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Sir John Narbrough's letter of the 9th March from Tripoli being read, importing that people's refusal to make restitution of what they had taken out of the ships of his Majesty's subjects the Hunter and Martin, and

consequently his being come to a rupture with that Government; It was RESOLVED, that the said war be carried on, and that to that purpose one 3rd-rate and 7 4ths and 5ths be fitted forth as soon as may be for the joining with Sir John Narbrough, and that particularly the Dartmouth be taken from her intended station on the coast of Ireland and sent thither.¹

ORDERED, That the 5th-rates employed for this service be provided with oars.

That Livorne be made use of for the present for the rendezvous of our ships; But that Malta be propounded to Sir John Narbrough as the fitter place by the conveniency of its situation for that war, in case it can be had.

Hasten the flute² that is building by Mr. Pett at Woodbridge.

The Guernsey to be ordered for the service of Sallee.

Proposed, that for the better manning the small ships employed against Tripoli and Sallee, that is to say, the 5th-rates, they be allowed men as in the time of war, and that the bigger be manned according to the establishment of peace on foreign service.³

RESOLVED, That orders be given for stopping the two French ships complained of by Captain Wood for not striking to his Majesty's ship,⁴ the said orders to be lodged at Plymouth and Falmouth.

RESOLVED also, that for the Ostender who offered the like affront to his Majesty's yacht the Portsmouth, Captain Sanderson commander,⁵ concerning which orders had been prepared by Mr. Pepys for the seizing her as soon as she should come (as she is expected) within reach of any of his Majesty's ports, the proceeding against her be respited until the complaints of Baron Bergeick⁶ (who is coming over and said to intend the making great exception to Captain Sanderson's behaviour in shooting at the said Ostend vessel within the very port of Ostend) be seen, and the reports of both sides considered.

A letter of the Officers of the Navy being read of the 30th of March '75, wherein, for the saving charge to the

¹ See Pepys's letter of 19th April to Sir John Narbrough (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 2244).

² A variety of flyboat.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2288.

⁴ See 6th March.

⁵ See 3rd April.

⁶ MS. 'Bergeike.'

Chest, they humbly propound that his Majesty would be graciously pleased to permit that the conveyances of the land (wherein the breach in the river of Rochester which his Majesty takes the charge of repairing is) from the town of Rochester to his Majesty, may be drawn so as that the poor of the Chest may have the benefit of his Majesty's intended bounty in bestowing the land upon them without being put to the expense of particular conveyances thereof from the Crown to them ; His Majesty was pleased to assent thereto, and ORDERED that the Officers of the Navy should be directed and empowered to cause the conveyances from the town of Rochester to be drawn accordingly.

APRIL 22, 1675

Memorandum. The Parliament being at this time sitting, and proceeding this day to the consideration of the state of his Majesty's navy, the House of Commons passed this Order¹:

Jovis 22^o die Aprilis, '75

ORDERED,

That Mr. Pepys do on Saturday morning next, at ten of the clock, bring into the House a true state of the present condition of the navy, and of the stores and provisions thereof.

WILL. GOLDESBROUGH, *Cler. Dom. Com.*

Pursuant to which Order Mr. Pepys

[*half a page left blank*²]

*Resolutions of the Lords of the Admiralty upon the considerations offered by Sir Denis Gauden in relation to the draught of the new victualling contract.*³

As for the warranty Sir Denis Gauden requires against any pretences of the old contractors in right of their

¹ *Commons' Journal*, ix. 321.

² On Pepys's report to the House, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 46.

³ Presumably intended to replace the existing contract with the Gaudens and others which had been signed in November 1673 (*ib.* i. 164). The resolutions in the text are not always intelligible without the draft contract to which they relate.

contract, The King's counsel¹ will be advised with, and the result thereof applied by them to the body of the present contract when the same shall come to pass through the Attorney-General's hands.

[Page 2²] RESOLVED, That the standard of 20 quarters of malt to a guile³ of beer be continued in the contract as is designed by the draught, but with a caution added that where there is no complaint of the beer no want of the proportion of malt shall be supposed, but where a complaint shall be, of the reasonableness whereof the Officers of the Navy are to be sole judges,⁴ an oath is to be required from the victuallers and their instruments that the beer so complained of was malted according to that standard, and where the said oath shall be interpreted for a breach of contract.

RESOLVED also, that as to harbour beer, no standard of malt be exacted other than the judgment of the Officers of the Navy upon complaint. By which the victuallers and their compliance or non-compliance with contract in that particular are to be determined.

RESOLVED, That the weight of the beef be limited to the sea beef only and not the harbour.

[Page 3.] RESOLVED, That upon all occasions of pretence on the victuallers' parts that fish is not to be had, the Officers of the Navy only shall be judges of the truth thereof, and the victuallers bound thereby. And where the said Officers shall find reason, from its not being to be had, to give the victuallers a liberty of supplying the fish by other species of provisions, there also the said Officers alone to determine what the said species shall be and by what proportions issued in lieu of fish.

AGREED, that the victuallers shall be at liberty to issue and be allowed for sea beer and sea bread to such ships and vessels of his Majesty's as shall lie in ordinary at Sheerness or in sea pay, provided they remain there as in a constant station as guard-ships or otherwise, and

¹ MS. 'Council.'

² These references occur in the margin of the *Journal*, and no doubt relate to the pages of the draft contract.

³ A 'guile' is a brewer's vat, but the term was also applied to the quantity produced at any single brewing.

⁴ MS. 'so judged.'

not brought thither to be refitted or supplied with provisions and stores in order to service elsewhere.

[Page 4.] AGREED, That the victuallers shall not be obliged to make good the full time of warranty (either that of 6 months or 12 months) to any victuals that shall not be demanded from them upon or before the last day of the year whereto the declaration on which the said victuals was provided doth relate.

[Page 6.] The victuallers' desire about the payment of the adds money¹ is denied.

[Page 7.] The victuallers' proposition that at the first victualling of his Majesty's ships the water-casks may be filled by them with water before their sending of it on board being well approved of, was judged greatly for his Majesty's service; It is therefore RESOLVED, that it be conditioned for in the contract, with a reasonable allowance to be made them in their accounts for the labour charges and freight occasioned by and expended therein.

[Page 11.] AGREED to, that the companies on board his Majesty's ships shall be directed to assist the victualling-vessels in the hoisting in of the provisions, and to permit the persons belonging to the said victualling-vessels to shelter themselves on board his Majesty's ships, if for want of conveniency on board their own open vessels they do desire, during the time of their said vessels' lying by the side of his Majesty's ships, Provided, that no charge be occasioned thereby to his Majesty, nor loss upon any miscarriage happening in the assistance thus to be given the victuallers by his men in the hoisting in of their provisions.

[Page 12.] The contract to remain as it now runs in reference to what the victuallers desire under this head relating to ships hired for victuallers. But as to the clause by which ordinary charge of the victuallers' delivering of provisions within the limits of the ports is to be defaulted on his Majesty's behalf out of the freights of such vessels as shall be hired for the transporting of provisions beyend the said limits, it is to be explained in

¹ 'Adds' or 'adze' money (properly adze or tool money) was an allowance of 3s. 4d. a month to the pursers for the provision of tools. Cf. Hollond, *Discourses* (N.R.S. vol. vii.), p. 154.

the contract that if the victualling-vessel be hired by the victuallers, they shall pay towards the freight of the said vessel the full value of what the same would ordinarily amount to to the utmost limits of the port, at whatever place it is (within the same) that they shall happen to deliver the victuals. But if the victualling-vessel be hired by the King or be the King's own, in such case the victuallers are to be obliged to no more than the putting the victuals on board the said vessel, unless the said vessel be brought to the side of the victuallers' own quay, in which case the victuallers will be accountable to the King for the whole freight they should have paid for transporting the said victuals to the limits of the port by any vessel hired by themselves.

[Page 15.] The like as to what they desire under the head of waste of provisions, saving the inserting into the contract on their behalf these words, or words to the like effect : *Other than the ordinary waste.*

[Page 16.] Already done in the contract as the victuallers desire.

[Page 18.] The victuallers' desire in this particular is agreed to in their own words, with the addition only of a clause to this purpose : ' The King's service on board his ship not requiring the letter of credit to be answered.'

[Page 20.] For what is propounded by them relating to the particulars of the houses, grounds, etc., referred to by the contract, the words in the present draught are the same with the ancient style of all victualling contracts, but may now be improved by a strict survey and inventory to be presently taken of the whole, and a reference made in the body of the contract to a schedule thereof to be annexed to it.

[Pages 21 and 25.] AGREED, that such remainder of sea provisions as upon survey shall be found sound, sweet, and wholesome (whereof the Officers of the Navy upon complaint to be the only judges) may be issued in petty warrant to ships and vessels in ordinary but not to any ships or vessels in sea pay.

[Page 23.] AGREED, as to the method of the victuallers' payments, that for the declaration for the whole year which is to be made in September or October the payments shall be by ten equal monthly portions without

any imprest advanced, and October to be reputed the first month of the ten.

That for any subsequent declaration within the year, payments shall be made by so many equal monthly portions as there remains months unexpired of the said year determining the last of December next after the date of the said declaration.

[Page 30.] This article about pressing of men and vessels is to continue in the terms of the old contract, without alteration.

MAY 8, 1675

[*Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

His Highness Prince Rupert taking notice that the Officers of the Navy do make a stop in the payment of some moneys due to him, upon pretence of some error in a precedent payment, in which, as they opened the matter, they find themselves to have overpaid his Highness about the sum of £1104;¹ The state of the matter was put into writing presently by Sir Thomas Allin and the rest of the Navy Officers and delivered to my Lord Privy Seal for his receiving his Majesty's pleasure about it.

Referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider of the present state of the victualling declaration in the Straits, out of a foresight of the extraordinary occasion which may probably be for the issuing of the victuals there by reason of the war with Tripoli; Who are to report their opinion touching the increase that may be reasonable to make to the present declaration.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck to be writ to, to acquaint their Lordships with all that is wanting (if anything be) on his part for his dispatch home to Livorne, where the King's service will now call for his presence, and to see dispatched, there appearing nothing on the King's part to be further done.

ORDERED, that the new draught of the victualling contract prepared by the Navy Officers and presented to

¹ *Margin*: 'Prince Rupert's bill overcast £1104.'

their Lordships be transmitted to the contractors, to be by them returned to their Lordships with their approval, or objections in case the[y] find occasion of making any thereto.

Upon a petition of Mrs. Finch, widow of Captain Finch, praying some allowance from the King for her and her family's support in consideration of the loss of her husband; ANSWERED, that as far as the establishment of the navy provides for widows in her case she may expect the benefit of his Majesty's bounty, But not further, the precedent she brings touching the widow of one Hubblethorne not reaching her case, her husband being a land-officer, and the King's bounty given her not from the navy but out of the privy purse.

Mr. Jones giving in this day his answer to the Lords' last letter,¹ the same was referred to be examined by the clerks appointed to examine his pretences and report the true value of the discoveries made by the said Mr. Jones.

Mr. Pepys is directed to speak with Mr. Speaker touching the paying of more money to Jones's men, and whether there be any cause for the same remaining.

Sir Thomas Allin this day delivers to my Lords the table of rates so long since demanded, with a list of ships and numbers of men by him lately paid off according to the said table of rates. Committed to Mr. Pepys to peruse, and report to their Lordships how he finds the same.

Captain Idle also presenting the Lords this day with a state of his disbursements, signed by Sir Leo. Jenkins, upon account of the Bachelor; It was referred to the next meeting of their Lordships to be then considered.

Memorandum. That Mr. Pepys did forthwith apply himself to Mr. Speaker in the business of Mr. Jones, whose answer was that before the sitting of the Parliament, when he had the last hearing of Jones's business, he did declare that there would be no further occasion for the attendance of Jones's witnesses or keeping them longer in pay, and that Mr. Jones did at the same time declare that he would accordingly forthwith discharge them.

¹ See 3rd April.

MAY 9, 1675

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Arlington; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Sir John Narbrough's letter of the 11th April being read from Livorne, intimating the ill usage he met with there,¹ in the denying him *pratique*² and the use of the hulk, and putting him to the utmost difficulties in refitting of his Majesty's ships there; His Majesty was pleased to direct Mr. Secretary Coventry to prepare letters from him to the Grand³ Duke upon that subject.

In reference to the other parts of the said letter, It was RESOLVED, That Sir John Narbrough be writ to¹ to prosecute the war against Tripoli in the most effectual method he can, not admitting till further order any treaty of peace from that people upon any lower terms than that of restitution. Sir J. N. propounding Malta as the fittest place for rendezvous on this occasion, RESOLVED, that stores be provided from hence, upon advice of the Officers of the Navy, to be lodged in that place, in case upon what shall be offered to Sir John Narbrough from considerations given in by Commissioner Beach in opposition to Malta,⁴ he shall yet be of opinion that Malta is the properest place.

Mr. Secretary Coventry reading a letter of great civility from the Grand Master of that place to his Majesty, promising the best assistance the same can afford, as he hath already shewn it to Sir J. N.⁴ at his stopping there in his return from Tripoli to Livorne; His Majesty is the more confirmed in the fitness of Malta for the rendezvous of his fleet, Ordering a letter of thanks to be prepared by Mr. Secretary to the Grand Master for his said offer.

RESOLVED, That the Harwich, which is designed for Sir John Narbrough in exchange for the Henrietta, be sheathed with lead,⁵ and that high enough, his Majesty believing that the Phoenix suffered in her last voyage very much from the want of her sheathing being carried higher.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2279.

² MS. 'Pratick.'

³ MS. 'Great.'

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2279.

⁵ See 6th March; and *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2339.

JUNE 12 1675

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

This being the first meeting of the Lords after the raising of the Parliament, Mr. Pepys gave their Lordships an account of what had lately passed between the Cambridge and some French men-of-war,¹ and that he had called for a more particular narrative thereof from Captain Herbert, commander of the said ship, who hath promised to present one accordingly to their Lordships as soon as he can come from his ship, which is at this day paying off at Chatham; Which narrative Mr. Pepys is accordingly commanded to call for from him² and see presented to their Lordships.

ORDERED, by the advice of the Officers of the Navy, that the hulk at Tangier be sent to Malta in the manner they propound in the letter of the 5th June, and all things relating thereto for the sending of artificers, etc., to be done as they therein advise.

Sir John Duteil, commander of the galley, being dead, his Majesty declares his having commissioned Captain Hamilton of the Maryrose to succeed him therein,³ and that he who at present acts as chief officer on board the galley do continue so doing until the Maryrose, who is now gone down into the Straits, shall return, or Captain Hamilton comes from her to take charge of the galley.

The supply of stores, valued at £4712, to be lodged at Malta⁴ being discoursed, and the necessity of their dispatch thither, and the Officers of the Navy declaring their inability to provide the same, It was committed to Mr. Speaker to solicit my Lord Treasurer for the money.

The provisions declared for at Tangier for the use of the King's ships being spent, and a further quantity thought fit to be declared for, RESOLVED, by advice of the Navy Officers, that the making a further declaration be respite till towards the end of the year, there being a sufficiency to be supplied hence out of the

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2300, 2303.

² See *ib.*, No. 2360.

³ See *ib.*, No. 2361.

⁴ See 9th May.

declaration for London or Portsmouth that remains yet unissued.

An estimate of the stores intended for Malta to be prepared by the Officers of the Navy against next Council day.

Mr. Jones attending, and soliciting for more money for his men, and Mr. Speaker declaring that he had long since dismissed them at his last hearing them at the Treasury Office before the sitting of the Parliament,¹ and that Mr. Jones did at the same time assent thereto and undertake for their being accordingly from time to time discharged from further attendance and pay; It was RESOLVED, That the said persons were from that day to be esteemed discharged, and no further allowance of pay to be made them, but that a fitting reward should be considered of and allowed to Mr. Jones for his pains in this service, besides reimbursing him his reasonable charges therein, and that to that purpose Mr. Jones do present to their Lordships a perfect account of all moneys supplied him from the King on the account of this service, and his disbursements duly vouched, Upon which their Lordships will order his being reimbursed his said expenses, and propound to his Majesty such further reward for him as they shall judge proportionable to the value of what shall appear to have been saved by Mr. Jones to the King, upon the report thereof, and the nature and validity of the evidences produced by Mr. Jones, from the Officers of the Navy, to whom the stating thereof stands referred. His Majesty was further pleased to declare that, forasmuch as the greater part of the persons brought in evidence of Mr. Jones's discoveries are themselves liable to punishment for frauds committed by themselves to the prejudice of his Majesty, and some of them at present prosecuted and imprisoned for the same, he had at the beginning of Jones's undertaking promised to pardon, and doth now again declare that he will make good that his gracious promise of pardoning, all the said persons for whatever frauds or abuses are chargeable upon them, that is to say, for so much thereof as concerns his Majesty's particular interest and no more.

Captain Idle attending also for an answer in his case of the Bachelor, and particularly upon the state of his

¹ See 8th May.

expenses therein perused and signed to by Sir Leo. Jenkins; It was, with his Majesty's approval, brought to this final determination, that the charges of the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights, computed to £561, being first satisfied, Delavall and Salisbury's claim to some part of the goods of the said ship secured, and it being also made appear by Idle that he hath fully satisfied the pretences of all his ship's company to shares equal with him in the profit of this adventure, The remainder of the proceed of the whole ship's loading, which appears to amount by sale to a very little more than Idle's charges are in the said state of account said to arise to, be delivered to him as of his Majesty's bounty, and for the indemnifying¹ him in the expenses he hath been at upon this undertaking.

Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty and their Lordships of the St. David, Sir William Poole commander, being returned from the Barbadoes as far as the Downs, in order to her coming into the River, and of the instance therein given of the liberty taken by commanders when abroad of lengthening the voyage as they see fit, upon any studied occasion or pretence for their longer stay, Sir William Poole's instructions obliging him to return as soon as he had landed the Governor there, which was in September last, without² any case yet appertaining to justify the charge he hath put his Majesty to for the staying so many months there after his coming thither; Mr. Pepys was directed to inquire strictly into the occasion of this his stay, and to report the same unto his Majesty and their Lordships.

Mr. Pepys informing them in the like manner of the liberty taken by commanders bound to the Straits, of taking in money at Cadiz and carrying it to Genoa and other ports for the[ir] particular benefits, to the neglect and disappointment of his Majesty's service and violating of their orders; RESOLVED, That the taking in and carrying of moneys by any of his Majesty's ships to any port within the Straits or elsewhere, otherwise than from Cadiz to England in their return home, be forbidden by an express clause to be provided for that purpose and inserted in each commander's instructions hereafter bound for the Straits.

¹ MS. 'indemprifying.'

² MS. 'within.'

Upon reading a late letter from Sir John Narbrough, wherein he takes notice of great inconvenience which he apprehends to arise from lead sheathing,¹ upon occasion of his coming to refit the *Henrietta* at Livorne, Namely, that her ironwork is in a very unusual manner and degree consumed with rust, beyond what he at any other time ever had observed in any other ship, and therefore saith he knows not what else to impute it to than this new sort of sheathing, adding also that he finds the sea to have this further effect upon the lead, that it doth by degrees wash it away, by wearing it thinner and thinner till at length it leaves the ship's side bare, and thereby exposes it to the worm: ORDERED, That it be referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider how far this inconvenience discovered upon the *Henrietta* touching the rusting of her ironwork is confirmed by any like effects upon other ships sheathed with lead, and also whether the lead as it is now usually laid on be not drawn too thin, and therefore ought not for the time to come to be laid on thicker, and what the consequence thereof will be, either to the greatening of charge or occasioning of any other inconveniency.

Lady Duteil 'is not to expect any bounty from his Majesty beyond what the establishment of the navy provides, which limits the same to the widows of captains slain in service and those only, whereas Sir John Duteil's death was not in service but natural. . . .'

Mr. Pepys observing to his Majesty that forasmuch as the frauds pretended to be discovered by Mr. Jones do, if true, affect the commanders and pursers of all those ships on which any of the said frauds are discovered, and if proved to such a degree as to deserve a reward to Mr. Jones for his said discoveries, will necessarily call for some marks of his Majesty's displeasure by way of punishment upon the said captains and pursers; RESOLVED, that, before the said Jones receives his said reward, their Lordships will consider of the validity of each of the said officers' defence in the matters charged upon the respective ships, and, where such defence is

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xlvii; but for 'Harwich' there, read 'Henrietta.'

not found sufficient, will represent the names of such of them to the King, in order to their being discharged of any employment where they at present have any, and branded as persons unfit for any further charge in the future; Laying it as a duty upon the Secretary of the Admiralty from time to time carefully to inform his Majesty and their Lordships, as often as any such persons shall hereafter make application for any new employment.

The case of the slopseller of the navy¹ being opened by Mr. Pepys, and confirmed by Mr. Speaker before whom, upon his late examinations in the business of Mr. Jones's discoveries, there appeared many irregularities in the proceedings of the slopseller by combination with the pursers, by vending of clothes of greater prices than those allowed of by the navy establishment, and them not rated and sold at the mast as they ought to have been, but without account kept thereof by any that should control it, so as under the head of clothes several things are said to be vended to the impoverishing of the seamen; And one particular instance brought, where a purser appears as the ship's book is made up to have issued clothes to the value of above £1000, where the value of what he had truly been furnished from the slopseller amounted not to £400; and forasmuch as upon debate it was found that these irregularities did not arise from any imperfection in the present constitution of the navy but from the corruption practised in the execution of it; And the Officers of the Navy shewing that upon inquiry several others had offered to supply the King's occasions with slops strictly according to the limitations of the establishment on that behalf, with submitting their clothes to be viewed by the Officers of the Navy or whom they should appoint thereto, and be excepted against either as to sorts or quality before they were sent on ship-board; RESOLVED, That the Officers of the Navy be at liberty and do make use of one or more such other slopsellers for what clothes shall hereafter be to be issued to the King's ships as they shall find most convenient for his Majesty's service until further order, notwithstanding any warrant heretofore granted to the present slopseller

¹ Major Thomas Beckford. See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2264.

of the navy ; The said Officers taking care that such provision be made for the due inspecting and controlling the slops to be hereafter provided, before they be put on board the King's ships, as may render this change of hands effectual for the preventing the evils before mentioned, and also to see from time to time due representation be made to their Lordships of any failures they shall meet with either in the said slopsellers or in the commanders and pursers of any of his Majesty's ships who shall be found acting contrary to their duty and the known rules of the navy in this particular.

Mr. Pepys informing the Lords touching the French privateer driven into Dover by the *Guarland*, Captain Lassells commander, who with 2 other ships were sent to Hythe upon the news of a Frenchman's chasing an Ostend vessel into that port and continuing to annoy her there with his shot, to the prejudice of the town (into which several of the shot flew), which Frenchman proved to be the privateer before mentioned : ORDERED, that the said French privateer be continued in the custody of the Governor of Dover (in whose hands she now is) by the King's command signified by Mr. Secretary Coventry, until the matter shall be inquired into and reported by the Judge of the Admiralty.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy being read, wherein they advise that what slaves shall be taken by Sir J. N. from the Tripoleens may not be sold but kept for his Majesty for the use of his own galley at Tangier, The same was agreed to, and RESOLVED, that Sir J. N. be instructed accordingly in his Majesty's next order to him.¹ It was also propounded by his Majesty that felons convicted and condemned here may have their election of being sent to his said galley, and that Mr. Pepys do confer with the Recorder of London about it.

Several letters being read from captains of the ships going out against Sallee, and particularly Captain Killigrew of the *Harwich*, intimating the great difficulties they meet with in getting of men, through the greatness of the merchants' employment and the height of the wages by them given ; so as that the said captains are doubtful

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2350.

of getting their ships manned without much loss of time without pressing (the expedient of beating up of drums to invite seamen in proving ineffectual¹; And it being remembered that on the like occasions of want of men in time of peace at home when there was war abroad, his Majesty has made use of pressing out of ships homewards bound, leaving those outward bound uninterrupted); It was RESOLVED, That his Majesty should be moved therein the next Council day that it might be ordered at the Council Board that seamen might be accordingly pressed out of such ships, and the Lords of the Admiralty authorised to issue their warrant for the same; with an exception (at the motion of my Lord Duke of Lauderdale) to the pressing of any Scotchmen.

Upon discourse had touching the general repair of his Majesty's ships, undertaken by his Majesty to be done without the aid of the Parliament, with notice taken of the year's spending towards the providing of stores, which the Officers of the Navy declare to be almost quite spent in every of the yards; His Majesty was pleased to concur in the necessity of having all the time saved that can be therein, Directing Mr. Speaker to solicit my Lord Treasurer for money on that behalf.

His Majesty was pleased to direct the Officers of the Navy to make all dispatch in the fitting of the Lark² (which was launched yesterday at Blackwall) in order to her being ready if possible to attend him in his designed voyage shortly to Portsmouth.

Eodem Die

[In the afternoon at Mr. Secretary Coventry's. * *Present* : The King; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys attending with a letter newly arrived from Sir John Narbrough of the 15th of May, and the same being read; RESOLVED, That Sir J. N. be instructed to admit of a treaty with the Tripoleenes if he finds them inclining to it, and therein not to insist finally upon

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2353.

² See *ib.*, Nos. 2346, 2347.

restitution of goods, but embrace a peace with them upon the terms of the old one, Upon condition of their giving his Majesty some heads in satisfaction of the injury offered him by them that first violated the peace, and in testimony of their dislike of the same, and of setting at liberty all persons, as well strangers as his own subjects, that were taken in the *Hunter* and *Martin*, or have or shall be out of any other ship since.¹

The supply of stores designed for a magazine to be lodged at Malta² for the use of Sir John Narbrough's fleet, estimated by the Officers of the Navy at £4712, being discoursed, and the necessity of sending them speedily away; His Majesty was pleased to commit to my Lord Treasurer the care of seeing that occasion answered by money, having this morning directed the Treasurer of the Navy to attend his Lordship about that and the general repair of the fleet.

Particular notice being taken of that clause in Sir J. N.'s letter wherein he complains of the undue practices of his Majesty's subjects (merchants) abroad in the owning of foreign ships, and thereupon giving them title to the wearing of his Majesty's colours,³ to the endangering a breach some time or other with the Turks, who know the said ships not to be English-built; in which matter Sir J. N. doth also observe the strictness of the King of France's orders upon the same consideration against the like practices of his subjects; Mr. Pepys was directed to consider of the matter of a proclamation fit to be issued for the preventing the said evil, advising therein with the Judge of the Admiralty, and to offer the same to his Majesty at this Committee when prepared; Taking care in the mean time to caution Sir Thomas Clutterbuck in the issuing of the passes he is entrusted with, that they be not made use of in cover of this fraud.

And whereas his Majesty had had it in his purpose to send Mr. Brisbane⁴ to be assistant to Sir J. N. upon any occasion of treaty with the Tripoleenes or otherwise, It was upon debate judged unfit that the time should be

¹ See S. P.'s Letter to Sir J. N. of 14th June (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 2350).

² See *ib.*, No. 2352.

³ Cf. *ib.*, No. 2350.

⁴ Mr. John Brisbane was judge-advocate.

lost which would be necessary for Mr. Brisbane's fitting himself for the voyage, and that therefore his Majesty's instructions therein should be sent away by Monday's post, and Mr. Pepys directed to prepare and see the same dispatched away accordingly.

Mr. Pepys was also directed to prepare, upon advice with the Judge of the Admiralty, matter for a proclamation prohibiting his subjects to sail in foreign ships in enmity with the Turks, declaring them to be out of the protection of his Majesty in case any of them shall be taken by the Turks so serving in foreign ships.

He was also directed to inquire and inform his Majesty and my Lords in the method wherein his Majesty's directions are to be given for the satisfying the Government of Tunis in what they desire touching the liberty to be granted to his Majesty's subjects to transport iron shot and masts to that place.¹

JUNE 19, 1675

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Sir Roger Strickland's account was read of the merchantman's running on board him in the Straits,² to the damage of his Majesty's ship the Dragon and the sinking of the merchantman by his side, and the same found to arise from no failure on Sir Roger Strickland's part or his ship's, but the negligence of the master of the merchantman.

Several letters and other papers signed by the Lords, and particularly to the Officers of the Navy relating to the service of Tripoli and the ships going forth, etc., *vide* their entries.

Upon the application of some of the Mary yacht's men (which yacht was lately lost in her return from Ireland)³ for the payment of their wages; ORDERED, that the examination of the loss of the said yacht be referred to the Officers of the Navy, with the assistance of some of the Trinity House, in order to their reporting to their

¹ Cf. *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2350.

² See *ib.*, No. 2402.

³ See *ib.*, No. 2341. She was cast away near Holyhead.

Lordships how far they shall find the same chargeable upon either the negligence or ignorance of her officers and company.

Captain Harman, late commander of the *Tiger*,¹ applying himself for an allowance of his charges towards the cure of his eye lost and head wounded in his rencounter before Cadiz, He was upon examination found to have received bills for the full to this day of what is allowed by the establishment of the navy to persons in his case, besides his Majesty's gift extraordinary of £600, so as their Lordships found themselves empowered to gratify him therein no further than in giving their extraordinary order for the present payment of the said allowance remaining unpaid to him.

Captain Herbert's account² being now presented under his hand to the Lords [of] what lately happened to him in the Cambridge from some French men-of-war, between whom and him several shot passed, and the flag by them finally denied to be strook; ORDERED, That the same be shewn to his Majesty at their Lordships' next attending him, and the difference noted between his present narrative and his former letter to Mr. Pepys, wherein Captain Herbert was silent as to his own giving one of the French ships a broadside.

An Order being now brought from his Majesty in Council putting it into the hands of my Lords to determine the whole business of Captain Idle; ORDERED, That their warrant of determination be sent to the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights to pay to Captain Idle such parts of the proceed of the ship Bachelor as were resolved to be allowed him at their Lordships' meeting some days since³ (his Majesty present), with a more strict direction of having the said Commissioners' charges upon the said ship and loading (said to amount to £561) well examined, in order to Idle's having the benefit of what abatements shall be reasonably found to be made therefrom.

¹ Captain Thomas Harman, formerly commander of the *Tiger*, had been appointed to the command of the *Sapphire*, 12th June, 1675. For an account of the action before Cadiz, see Charnock, *Biographia Navalis*; i. 335 n.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2360.

³ 12th June.

Upon discourse had by my Lords with the Officers of the Navy, and their being informed from the said Officers in the great want of stores in all his Majesty's yards, with the scarcity of them to be had, the only fitness of the present season for the providing and bringing them in, and their inability without money to do the same, the credit being low, and that more particularly arising from the want of £16,000 to make up what their late assignation upon the assessments for £60,000 have failed to make good, a more particular representation of all which difficulties they say they are preparing for their Lordships and my Lord Treasurer; the Lords did direct the said Officers to dispatch with all speed their said representation in order to their own pursuit of the same by their report of it to his Majesty and my Lord Treasurer, recommending it in the mean time to Mr. Speaker the care of discoursing with my Lord Treasurer and obtaining as much as he can of help from his Lordship in the several particulars in this discourse mentioned, before his Majesty's going out of town and Mr. Speaker's own absence, which he this day acquainted my Lords he had his Majesty's leave for, for some time; The Lords also directing Mr. Pepys to give Mr. Speaker a particular of the said several heads of want of money for the assisting him in his solicitations to my Lord Treasurer touching the same.

Margin: 'Vide the entry of Mr. Pepys's letter to Mr. Speaker¹ on that subject the same day.'

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's application for 'some extraordinary encouragement' referred to the next meeting of the Lords.

ORDERED, That the Commissioners for Sick and Wounded Seamen be wrote to for an account of the distribution by them made of the £10,000 which they have received upon the supply of £500 weekly made them by my Lord Treasurer towards the payment of the arrears of their debts; this inquiry being occasioned by some complaint this day said by Mr. Speaker to be made by some of the out-ports that they have not received any share of the said £10,000.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2369.

The business of the victualling contract ¹ being moved, in order to the bringing to some determination the matters remaining in dispute upon the same between the victuallers and the Officers of the Navy; RESOLVED, That their Lordships will visit the Navy Office on Tuesday next, and make it a part of their business there to dispatch that matter.

Mr. Pepys presenting to their Lordships Captain Wylde's defence for his striking his flag at Livorne at his late being there with the Centurion in his way to Constantinople with Sir John Finch, his Majesty's Ambassador thither ²; RESOLVED, that the same be read again when his Majesty shall be present.

JUNE 22, 1675

[At the Navy Office. *Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Speaker.]

The victuallers of the navy attending by order,³ the paper lately delivered in by them containing the several points wherein they offer difficulty to their agreeing with the Officers of the Navy in the new draught of the victualling contract was read, and article by article debated, and heads taken towards a resolution to each, which were ordered to be digested into terms fit to be inserted in the contract, and copies thereof first given to the victuallers for them to give what objections (if any) they shall find cause to make thereto.

Mr. Beckford,⁴ the slopseller of the navy, being called in, their Lordships' late letter to the Navy Office was read, expressing the matters for which they thought it necessary to have the providing of slops ⁵ put into other hands. To which he making an unsatisfactory defence, the Officers of the Navy were directed forthwith to put in execution their Lordships' said order, Mr. Beckford being left to the liberty he desired of making his defence more fully before his Majesty.

¹ See 22nd April.

² On Sir John Finch, the physician; see *D. N. B.*, xix. 18. He had been sent as minister to the Grand Duke of Tuscany in 1665, and was ambassador at Constantinople 1672-82.

³ See 19th June.

⁴ See 12th June.

⁵ Written here and elsewhere 'slopes.'

JUNE 26, 1675

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Monday morning next at the Council Chamber appointed for debating the business of passes.

Mr. Secretary Williamson signifies his Majesty's pleasure to my Lords that, forasmuch as his Majesty is satisfied that the French privateer¹ under restraint at Dover for his not striking to his Majesty's ships *Guarland*, *Speedwell*, and *Pearl*, was led to that error by his taking his Majesty's said ships to be Dutch, Monsieur *Ruvigny*, the King of France's minister here, asserting the same to his Majesty, and having declared it also at several times to Mr. Secretary Williamson and Mr. *Pepys*, and his Majesty being also satisfied for that error by the long restraint under which the said privateer hath lain for the same, It is his Majesty's pleasure that the said privateer be forthwith discharged. It was RESOLVED, That orders should accordingly be issued for the discharging of her.

Sir *Leo. Jenkins*'s report² in the case of the Swedes' vessel seized by a *Brandenburger* commission within the limits of his Majesty's ports, wherein he declares it to be a violence to the honour of his Majesty's sovereignty and the protection due to all ships of what nation soever while within his ports. ORDERED, That the same be presented to his Majesty in Council to be there heard and determined in.

Mr. *Grill*, who pretends to have served his Majesty as secretary to the late Sir *John Duteil* on board the *Margaret* galley, praying to be continued in the said employment or that he may have some other, was answered, That the practice of the navy admits of no such office as that of secretary to the captain of the galley, and for other employment must address himself to his Majesty.

The Lords being attended by Mrs. *Finch*, daughter

¹ See 12th June.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2428.

to the late Captain Finch slain in his Majesty's service,¹ Who petitions on behalf of her mother and family for some relief extraordinary from his Majesty in consideration of the loss of the said Captain Finch ; It was answered, that in case payment had not been made of what by the establishment of the navy is provided for persons in like case, their Lordships would interpose for the effectual payment thereof, But if anything was desired beyond the said establishment, the petitioners must apply themselves to his Majesty.

Mr. Jones attending upon his account of charges in his discovering of frauds on the ships' books, and therein giving no sort of satisfaction to my Lords ; It was RESOLVED, That their Lordships would advise his Majesty to be at no further disburse in this matter at the pleasure of Mr. Jones, who declares himself unable to give any better account, but that his encouragement may be out of the proceed of his discoveries to be made at his own charge.

JUNE 28, 1675

[At the Council Chamber. *Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

At their Lordships meeting this morning by appointment² upon the express business of passes, and regulating [the] method of issuing the same so as may most effectually prevent the frauds practised in the obtaining the same, The paper some time since delivered in by my Lord Treasurer on that subject was read, and the same being article by article debated, their Lordships agreed generally with the said Commissioners' propositions³ with little variation and some additions, and particularly that of having a constant register kept in the Office of the Admiralty of all passes granted as well by others as themselves, and that to that purpose copies of the passes granted elsewhere be monthly or oftener transmitted from each port to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

¹ Possibly William Finch, commander of the York, who was killed in the action of 28th May, 1673 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 350).

² See 26th June.

³ See 3rd April.

RESOLVED also, that a form of certificate be provided, which may comprehend all the circumstances whereto satisfaction is to be given upon the granting of any passes, thereby to render all the passes uniform and fully satisfactory, and Mr. Pepys is directed to prepare a draught of the whole, to be presented to my Lord Treasurer in order to his having the further advice of the Commissioners of the Customs thereupon.

JULY 2, 1675

[At Hampton Court. *Present*: The King; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty that upon advising by his Majesty's command¹ with several merchants touching what was necessary for his Majesty to do for the giving liberty to his subjects merchants to carry iron shot and masts to Tunis (which that Government desires) there needed no further permission than what the law doth already allow to every merchant, the merchants not carrying those goods thither arising, not from any want of leave for their doing it, but their not meeting with a market to encourage them to it, It appearing that merchants who have carried such goods thither have been forced to remove them thence or sell them to loss; It was RESOLVED, and the same committed to Mr. Secretary Coventry to see done, that his Majesty will by letter give this only answer to the satisfaction of that Government, that he has taken off all prohibition and that his subjects are at full liberty to supply them with the goods they desire. . . .

His Majesty is pleased to declare, That Mr. Atkins,² who brought home the ship *Phoenix* from the Barbado's by a commission irregularly granted him by his father the Governor thereof, over the head of the lieutenant, whose right it was to succeed his deceased captain, Captain Watson, should nevertheless have an allowance made him of his Majesty's bounty to the value of captain's

¹ See 12th June.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2470.

pay from the time of his coming from the Barbado's to the day that the said lieutenant took possession of the ship by virtue of a commission from his Majesty granted him upon her coming upon the coast of England, but that this be not granted to the said Mr. Atkins in the name of pay but as his Majesty's bounty, so as that it may not become a precedent.

The clerks to whom the examination of Mr. Jones's account ¹ of discoveries was referred presenting this day their report upon the same, which consisted of many particulars, it was committed to Mr. Pepys to overlook the said report, and present the substance thereof to his Majesty and their Lordships.

JULY 14, 1675

[At Hampton Court. *Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Keeper ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

My Lord Treasurer presenting his Majesty with a paper containing the opinion of the Commissioners of the Customs upon the late determinations of my Lords touching passes,² wherein what they principally seem to differ from my Lords in is the strictness of their Lordships' rules in some cases beyond what they conceive necessary, His Majesty and my Lords thought fit to make trial of the efficacy of the said Commissioners' advice in departing [from] the said strictnesses, and thereupon ordered Mr. Pepys to draw up the rules provided in this matter with the alterations propounded by the said Commissioners, RESOLVING, that the same be tendered to his Majesty in Council for confirmation the next Council day ; The return of the several registers to the Lords of the Admiralty from the Commissioners of the Customs being ordered to be monthly, and the several passes to agree with the terms agreed on by treaty with that nation in reference to which the said passes shall be respectively to be granted.

¹ See 4th and 5th February.

² See 28th June.

Memorial for Mr. Secretary Coventry

Upon consideration had by his Majesty with my Lords the Committee for Foreign Affairs at Hampton Court, Wednesday the [blank] July, of the late request made by the Government of Tunis at Sir John Narbrough's renewing the Treaty there, namely, That the merchants subjects of his Majesty may be at liberty to supply the said place with iron shot and masts, and it being upon inquiry found that the merchants are at this day at liberty to do what is desired, and do do it as far as the market prices of that place will invite them, and that therefore no dispensation or other act of his Majesty seems necessary to enable them thereto; His Majesty was pleased to RESOLVE, that the said Government should be let to understand from him that all prohibition to his subjects for furnishing them with the said stores is taken off, and they left at liberty, without any constraint, to serve them therewith. And it was committed to Mr. Secretary Coventry to see this done.

Underwritten: 'Delivered by Mr. Pepys to Mr. Feild at Windsor, 26th July 1675.'

JULY 28, 1675

[At Hampton Court. *Present:* The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Essex¹; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

A letter being read from the Officers of the Navy, wherein they report the charge of the galley to arise to £17,000 per annum, and advise for several good reasons therein specified that the charge and disposal of the galley may be separated from the navy and affixed to the establishment of the garrison and put under the direction of the Governor thereof; His Royal Highness (being present) was pleased to take notice of a proposal which had been put into his hand of maintaining the galley

¹ Arthur Capel, Earl of Essex, the lord lieutenant of Ireland (*D. N. B.*, ix. 12), was visiting England at this time. He was not an admiralty commissioner.

for £6000 per annum, which proposal being ordered to be brought and debated before my Lords of the Admiralty, the further consideration of the present paper from the Officers of the Navy was respited till the said project of maintaining the galley at £6000 per annum has been first examined.

His Majesty acquainting my Lords of a yacht which he has now almost finished out of his own privy purse by contract with Sir Anthony Deane,¹ directs that so soon as she be launched, she be received into the number of his navy and forthwith rigged out of his stores, being to be called the Charles.²

Mr. Pepys shewing to his Majesty and my Lords a late *portato*³ from Livorne, wherein the King's ships the Swallow and Dartmouth are entered as bringing merchants' goods, and consideration being had that the quantity and value of the said goods was very small, it was not judged advisable to take the rigour of his Majesty's late resolutions upon the captains of the said ships, but that nevertheless Mr. Pepys should, as by command of his Majesty and my Lords, write to the said captains signifying the notice taken by his Majesty, etc., of their breach of their instructions in what they had done, so as to let them know that it will be remembered against them in case they be found further guilty of the like crime.

Mr. Pepys also tendering an account, not only of the great charge in general which his Majesty has been at in the sending of the St. David upon no other errand than the transporting Sir Jonathan Atkins as governor to the Barbadoes, amounting by the ordinary medium of £4 per man a month to £14,644. 4s., But upon that one exorbitant part thereof amounting to £4322. 16s. 6d. which arise[s] by Sir William Poole's keeping his ship there wholly unemployed about six months, contrary to his Majesty's orders given him at his going, and without any other order yet appearing to justify the same; It was

¹ Mr. Commissioner Deane had been knighted on July 31d (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 2401).

² The Charles yacht was built at Rotherhithe by Sir Anthony Deane in 1675; she was cast away on the coast of Holland in November 1678.

³ Literally *portato* is the cargo of a ship. The reference here might possibly be to a manifest or bill of lading.

RESOLVED, That forasmuch as through the present want of ships in sea pay here sufficient for that purpose the said Captain Poole cannot be tried for the same by a court-martial, their Lordships should cite him before them, and in case he should not render them a satisfactory account of the reason of his said stay, he should be committed by them to prison¹ until opportunity should be had for the trying him by a court-martial.

The report of the Officers of the Navy being read, wherein they advise that the carpenters of the ships of four uppermost rates may be borne upon their respective ships in ordinary, as the other standing officers of the ships are, the same was assented to and ORDERED to be put in practice in the manner and with the cautions propounded by the said Officers of the Navy.

Another report from the said Officers being read, advising that his Majesty's hulk at Chatham being by age become unserviceable and unfit for repair, the Arms of Rotterdam with good husbandry to his Majesty may at less than £100 cost be fitted to supply her place, the same was assented to and ORDERED to be put in execution.

Mr. Pepys opening to his Majesty the substance of the report from the clerks of the navy office touching Mr. Jones's account,² and therein shewing the little fruits and extraordinary charge of the said Jones's undertaking, his Majesty and their Lordships came to the resolutions contained in the subsequent memorial thereof, as the same was since drawn up by Mr. Pepys and signed by their Lordships.

The Foresight and Vulture sloop to continue at Jamaica, and the Norwich upon the coast of Ireland.

Mrs. Finch's petition³ answered, that the King will allow her 'the full of what's provided by the establishment of the navy for other in the like case, and no more.'

Major Beckford,⁴ slopseller, to be heard before the Lords.

Upon application made by the several pursers of the fleet for the benefit of the allowance promised them of extraordinary necessary money, and which had been

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2533.

² See 4th and 5th February.

³ See 26th June.

⁴ See 22nd June.

confirmed to them by warrant from his Royal Highness (in the beginning of the last war with Holland) had they not been prevented therein by the death of Mr. Wren, his Royal Highness's then secretary, as his Royal Highness, being now present, was pleased in right to the said pursers to testify, the same was granted by his Majesty, and his pleasure signified to my Lords for their issuing their warrants to the Principal Officers of the Navy accordingly.

A letter being read from the Officers of the Navy, intimating Captain Preistman's being made 'Run' upon the clerk of the check's of Woolwich books for his absence from on board his ship the Lark at the said clerk's muster,¹ and thereupon desiring direction whether the said 'R.' shall be taken off or that a new commission be granted the said Captain Preistman; RESOLVED, that the dissatisfaction of his Majesty and my Lords be by letter signified to the said Captain Preistman, and that his pay be forfeited to the time of his being so made 'R.,' but that notice also be taken to the Officers of the Navy of the great irregularity committed by the said clerk of the check in making a commander 'Run' upon his books, the same tending very much to the diminution [of the] credit and authority of a commander, and for that reason expressly forbid by the Lords of the Admiralty's letter to the said Officers of the Navy of the [blank], the non-observance whereof their Lordships do take notice of with much dissatisfaction, requiring them to do the like to the clerk of the check, and see that the said 'R.' be taken off from the said book, but so as that, according to their Lordships' directions in their said letter of the [blank], it may be remembered when the ship comes to be paid off and his pay stopped from him as forfeited to the time when he was so made 'Run.'

Mr. Pepys taking notice of a packet from Sir John Narbrough's, superscribed 'For his Majesty's special service,' which had been opened by the Officer of the Health at Genoa, to the exposing to view the contents of the said packet; Mr. Secretary Williamson acquainting his Majesty that the same was generally done and was

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2465, 2469, 2476.

not to be avoided, and therefore fruitless to complain of.

Memorandum. That this day by his Majesty's direction and in his own presence the Earls of Ossory and Craven were added to and their names inserted in the Commission of constituting the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty,¹ with the Great Seal of England freshly applied thereto in the presence of his Majesty as aforesaid, and a memorandum thereof entered in the margin of the said Commission and signed to by Mr. Secretary Coventry.

Lords' Resolutions on Mr. Jones's Account

Upon consideration this day had of an account lately delivered in by Mr. Thomas Jones (in answer to a letter from this Board of the 15th of June last demanding the same) of the charges by him pretended to have been sustained in his late undertaking of his discovering frauds in several ships' books to the prejudice of his Majesty, the same amounting to the sum of £1065. 16s. 8d. and towards which he acknowledgeth himself to have actually received from his Majesty the sum of £507. 3s. 8d. ; As also of a report from the several clerks of his Majesty's navy by whom the effects of the said Mr. Jones's discoveries have been, in the presence of Mr. Speaker and the Comptroller of the Navy, particularly examined, by which report it appears :

That of the sum of £5233. 10s. 1d. (the value of the frauds pretended to be discovered by the said Mr. Jones upon the books of the eight ships mentioned in the margin), £3338. 7s. 3d. has been fully cleared by the parties on whom the said frauds were charged.

[*Margin :* Stavoreen, Ruby, Thomas and Francis, Speedwell, Reserve, Adventure, Ruby Fr[ench], John of Dover.]

That there has been actually paid to the King's prejudice upon the said books the sum of £44. 16s. 11d. and no more.

That the validity of the said Mr. Jones's discoveries

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 39.

in reference to the remaining £1850. 11s. 11d. resting under dispute, as being neither satisfactorily cleared (though wholly denied) by the persons charged therewith nor fully proved by Mr. Jones, the testimony of his witnesses not being given upon oath, and the witnesses themselves for the most part persons of low credit, and parties to the frauds whereof they now pretend to be discoverers.

It was RESOLVED,

1st, That it would not be in any wise advisable that his Majesty should enter upon any further disburse, upon the account either of any of the matters already examined or what the said Mr. Jones may hereafter propose of the same kind.

2dly, That the account of charges brought in by the said Mr. Jones is in no wise satisfactory, and therefore unfit to be allowed.

3dly, That his Majesty would nevertheless, out of his bounty to the said Mr. Jones, remit to him the £507 3s. 8d. which he owns to have received upon account of his said discoveries, and that all necessary orders shall be given for the discharging him thereof.

4thly, Lastly, That for the further encouraging the said Mr. Jones (as far as the same may be done, without any previous disbursements or charges to be occasioned thereby to his Majesty) to proceed upon these or any other discoveries, whether upon his Majesty's ships' books or with relation to the other frauds which in his said account he pretends to be under present prosecution of in his Majesty's Exchequer to the value of above £60,000, The said Mr. Jones shall have to his own proper use the full value of one-third part of what shall at any time be effectually recovered to his Majesty from or by reason of any prosecutions thereof made by and at the sole charge of the said Mr. Jones ; Who is to have a copy of these his Majesty's resolutions for his information therein.

ANGLESEY	ORMONDE
G. CARTERET ¹	J. WILLIAMSON

¹ ' Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.'

MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 1675

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys acquainting their Lordships with the advice lately come from Mr. Parry at Lisbon touching the insolence of an English merchantman, the *Britannia*, whose commander, under pretence of having a commission from his Majesty, came up with his jack flying into the port of Lisbon without giving due salutes, to the great and just offence of the Portuguese and trouble of our merchants there, The name of which commander Mr. Pepys upon inquiry finds to be Captain Earning, son of Captain Earning formerly in the King's service and lately slain in the East Indies, whose said son doth not appear to have ever had any commission from his Majesty or his Royal Highness; *RESOLVED*, That his Majesty be humbly advised to cause to be signified to Lisbon his dislike of the said Earning's proceedings, and that care be taken by Mr. Pepys to have an eye to the return of the said ship *Britannia* in order to her commander being called to an account for this his insolence, contrary to the express letter of his Majesty's late proclamation on that behalf.

AUGUST 7, 1675

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven. Navy Officers attending.]

Major Beckford, late slopseller of the navy, attending with his desire that, pursuant to his Majesty's late determination at Hampton Court,¹ he should have opportunity of answering before their Lordships to the matters objected against him, and upon which he stands suspended from the execution of his place as slopseller aforesaid, their Lordships directed him to bring to this Board in writing what he had to offer in his justification, which he offering to do within a day or two, Mr. Pepys was directed upon his doing thereof to transmit what he should so deliver in here to the Officers of the Navy

¹ See 28th July.

in order ¹ to their reporting to my Lords their opinion thereon this day sevensnight.

Upon a letter from the Officers of the Navy being read, propounding the making use of salt beef and pork upon the galley at Tangier in lieu of fresh meat which is not presently to be had there, the same was agreed to.

An estimate from the Officers of the Navy was signed by their Lordships for 1500 men's victuals for 3 months for the service of the fleet now in the Straits.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's representation ² shewing 'the labour and expensefulness of his employment at Livorne' and desiring 'some consideration by allowance to be had thereof,' referred to the Officers of the Navy for their opinion.

The Officers of the Navy informing my Lords with his Highness Prince Rupert's dissatisfaction that the bill for the eleven hundred and odd pounds, lately ordered to be made to his Highness in order to the accommodating of a mistake ³ in the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy their making out a former bill to his Highness for a greater sum, should run in the style of his Majesty's free gift and bounty, and their Lordships considering that the said bills, having reference to the order of their Lordships by which the said sum is made payable as of his Majesty's free gift and bounty, it is not necessary that the words *free gift and bounty* should be inserted in the body of the bill; their Lordships yielded, for the satisfaction of his Highness, that the said words should be left out, and the Officers of the Navy were directed at the same time to cause the bill to be drawn accordingly.

The returns of Sir William Doyley and Mr. Evelyn were read, in answer to the late demands of my Lords touching the method of their issuing their respective shares of the moneys to them supplied by my Lord Treasurer toward clearing the arrears of the sick and wounded; their Lordships owning good satisfaction in

¹ MS. 'answer.'

² See 19th June.

³ See 8th May.

that of Mr. Evelyn's and the other promising an account so soon as his¹ health will give him leave to prepare it.

Sir William Poole attending their Lordships upon summons,² and giving their Lordships an account, in no degree satisfactory, of the ground of his staying 6 months at the Barbadoes, contrary to his Majesty's express order, and even without any written order from Sir Jonathan Atkins, Governor thereof, for the breach of his Majesty's; and it appearing, not only by the total silence of his journal but by his own confession, that he did never insist before the Governor upon the King's orders being to [be] obeyed, nor demanded of him any orders in writing to justify his not obeying them, but that he brought home great quantity of merchandise, and that that was the most probable ground of his stay, though the Governor (whose order nevertheless he had no reason to obey had he had any in contradiction to the King's) endeavours by a letter to Mr. Pepys to suggest another pretence, but a most unsatisfactory one; their Lordships, in pursuance of the resolution taken by his Majesty with their Lordships in the case at Hampton Court,² commanded a warrant to be forthwith prepared for his commitment into the custody of the Marshal of the Admiralty, which was accordingly done forthwith and signed.

Memorandum. That for the further information of my Lords of the charge his Majesty has sustained, both in the improvident stay of the St. David by Sir William Poole at the Barbadoes, and in the whole of the said ship's voyage, upon no other service done than that of transporting the said Governor thither, Mr. Pepys presented their Lordships with the following abstract of the said ship's journal for that voyage :

St. David, 170 men.

29 October, 1673—Ordered to be fitted out for her voyage to the Barbadoes.

¹ Sir William Doyley's; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2588.

² See 28th July.

24 March, 1673-4. She was in the Hope and had all stores and provisions on board ready to sail .	Time m. w. d.	Money at £4 per man per mensem. £ s. d.
	5 0 6	3545 14 6
Continued in the Hope till the 23rd of July, 1674, and then sailed, and arrived at Spithead the 30th do. and stayed there for Sir Jonathan Atkins's coming till the 3 of September . . .	5 3 2	3958 11 0
Arrived at the Bar- badoes the 31st of Octo- ber, '74 . . .	2 0 2	1408 11 0
Continued at Barba- does until the 27th of April, '75, and then came away for ¹ England.	6 1 3	4322 16 6
Arrived at Woolwich, 24th June, 1675 . . .	2 0 2	1408 11 0
Total	21 2 1	14,644 4 0

Mr. Pepys having, at the late desire of my Lord Privy Seal, prepared an estimate of the annual charge of the yachts, amounting to near £10,000, the same being called for by his Lordship and read, it was ordered to be presented again by Mr. Pepys to the Board at his Majesty's next presence there.

Their Lordships RESOLVED to meet again here next Saturday morning, and so constantly from Saturday to Saturday until further order.

Mr. Jones sending in his desire to be heard by their Lordships upon the matter of his Majesty and their late resolutions touching him,² directions were ordered to be given him for their Lordships that he puts into writing what he has to say thereon, upon their receipt whereof their Lordships would [grant] him all necessary hearing.

¹ MS. 'from.'

² See 28th July.

AUGUST 14, 1675

[At the Council Chamber. *Present*: Lord Keeper; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

A letter being read from Sir Denis Gauden, in answer to some late complaints of the quality of the victuals issued by him and partners to his Majesty's ships; RESOLVED, That the same have a public hearing before their Lordships, all parties being present, so soon as the Officers of the Navy can be prepared on his Majesty's behalf in all that is necessary for the proving the matter of the said complaints.

Upon reading the petition of Boylston, deputy-purser of the Stavoreen, who was committed to prison about 3 months since upon information given my Lords by Mr. Speaker that the said Boylston was found guilty of several unfaithfulnesses in the making up of the ship's books, to the prejudice of his Majesty, as also of denying to produce the book signed by his captain, in which petition the said Boylston utterly disowning his being guilty, and their Lordships taking into consideration as well that the informations against Boylston were not delivered to their Lordships upon oath, They were pleased to RESOLVE, that the said Boylston should be discharged from his imprisonment, he being nevertheless liable to any further prosecution for the crimes aforesaid when the same can be regularly proved against him.

Their Lordships having advice from Sir Leo. Jenkins that he had appointed the 16 of September next for a Session of the Admiralty in case their Lordships approve of it, the same was accordingly approved.

Mr. Pepys informing their Lordships that the Lord Mayor of the City of London doth continue to issue passes to ships, and the same being supposed to arise from its not being notified to him that his Majesty had by his late Order in Council restrained the issuing the said passes only to the Lords of the Admiralty and Commissioners of the Customs; RESOLVED, That a copy of his Majesty's said Order of Council be sent to the Lord Mayor, and that the Council be moved that a copy do go out from their Clerk accordingly.

A letter of the 31st July from Captain Story, commander of the Portsmouth in St. Martin's Road,¹ was read, complaining of some neglect of some Scotch vessels to do the due honour to the King's flag, but not describing the vessels or masters so as to enable my Lords to discover [them] ; RESOLVED, that Captain Story be by the next convoyance directed to be more particular (if he can) therein² ; who desiring also directions how to behave himself in asserting the King's honour if the French fleet then expected forth should pass by him, RESOLVED to be considered when his Majesty shall be present, hoping in the mean time that the suddenness of his departure thence will prevent for the present Captain Story's coming to any contest about it.

AUGUST 21, 1675

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven.
Navy Officers attending.]

A letter being read from Mr. Jones, taking notice of his having received in writing his Majesty's and their Lordships' late resolutions concerning his business,³ and desiring some fresh considerations may be had by their Lordships thereupon, and particularly in relation to the English Ruby ; their Lordships RESOLVED to abide by their said last resolutions, wherein Mr. Jones hath a third part granted him of all that without further charge to his Majesty should be recovered by the said Jones from any of the persons by him already, or who should hereafter be, charged by him with any frauds by them practised to the prejudice of his Majesty ; commanding Mr. Pepys to give him this as their answer. Which was accordingly done by Mr. Pepys on Tuesday the 24th August, upon Mr. Jones's coming to him for the same.

Captain Thomas Harman, commander of the Sapphire, now bound out for Sallee, attending their Lordships for leave to attend his Majesty at Windsor in order to his receiving his Majesty's last commands, the ship being ready to sail, was granted ; but his further desire, of

¹ Off Rochelle.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2524.

³ See 28th July.

a greater number of men, their Lordships were not pleased to allow, the Officers of the Navy informing their Lordships that besides their believing his present number to be sufficient upon other considerations, it is now such as that she is not capable of stowing the provisions ordered her, that is to say, her bread and beer by 2 months.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy . . . being read, wherein they give an account of the state of their supplies of money, which as they being informed from Captain Shales¹ they are to expect from my Lord Treasurer for the year ensuing, determining at Midsummer next, it was committed to Mr. Pepys to draw a general state of the navy's present condition in reference to money, and the works to be provided for thereby, and present the same to their Lordships as soon as the same is finished.

A letter from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck being read, wherein he desires an authority from my Lords of wearing his Majesty's jack upon all the vessels which shall be employed by him in the Mediterranean in the carrying of stores and provisions for the use of his Majesty's fleet,² and the reasonableness thereof being debated, together with the ill consequences of it in case that authority should in any wise be abused, it was ordered to be reconsidered at a fuller Board when next they shall attend his Majesty.

Major Beckford³ appearing this day at the Board with his counsel, in order to the justifying himself against those imputations for the sake whereof he hath been suspended from the execution of his place as slopseller to the navy, the sum of whose pleading was, That as to his vending of clothes above the ordinary prices, it was only to officers and volunteers, to the best of his knowledge and order the rules of his limitation for the issuing of ordinary clothes reaching (as he would have it) only to seamen, Adding, that the King is not prejudiced by it, and that it hath been the constant practice. As to his clothes not being rated at the mast,⁴ that ought not to

¹ Clerk to the Lord Treasurer ; see also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 73, 79.

² Sir Thomas Clutterbuck was victualler for the Mediterranean.

³ See 7th August.

⁴ See pp. 263-4 below.

be imputed as a crime to him, it arising only from the neglect of the captains, to whose power he has always submitted to be rated there, and issued in what manner he pleases. As to that of brandy and other things being issued by the pursers under the name of clothes, it is without his order or knowledge; and to his prejudice where the purser issues any clothes than what he supplies him with, it bereaving him of profit of issuing his own clothes, he having no other benefit by it than the old allowance of 1s. in the pound which he has from the purser for so much money as he receives for the purser upon the score of clothes supposed to be necessarily to be sometimes provided by the purser or some other in cases where, the ship staying out longer than was at first declared, the stock of clothes she sets out with happens to be spent before the end of the voyage. Their Lordships, after hearing the said Major and his counsel, thought fit to respite their giving any determination in the matter until Mr. Speaker, from whom in particular upon occasion of his inquiries on the business of Mr. Jones's discoveries the complaints against Major Beckford arose, should be present.

AUGUST 28, 1675

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Secretary Williamson acquainting my Lords that by the present posture of affairs with the Crown of Denmark it became necessary that the granting of passes to the King's subjects in reference to that Crown is presently to be considered, and the form thereof adjusted according to the terms of the particular treaty of peace between us and it¹ (there being a form of passes therein established) which passes fall out by the Treaty to be issued from the King's own hand in his regal capacity, and not in execution of any of the Admiral's power, and so to be managed by a Secretary of State, Mr. Pepys was directed to give Mr. Secretary Williamson a copy of the rules

¹ Extracts from the treaty with Denmark are among the State Papers (*Cal. S. P. Dom.*, 1675-6, p. 484).

lately established touching the granting of passes,¹ in order to the conforming of his proceedings and methods thereto.

A letter of the 24th of July from Sir John Berry from Newfoundland attending the fishery there being read, and largely opening several important circumstances relating to the planters and their fishing-trade there,² greatly differing from the measures lately taken by my Lords the Committee for Trade, from whence Sir John Berry's instructions from his Majesty at his going hence upon that subject were calculated; RESOLVED, That Mr. Pepys do take care to see the same brought before my Lords of the said Committee so soon as the Court shall be returned to town.

Mr. Pepys observing to their Lordships that for want of the general survey which is now in taking of his Majesty's ships and stores, and which as the Officers of the Navy do say will require yet a month to come for its finishing, the report he is directed to draw up³ of the general state of the navy in reference to its wants cannot be strictly drawn up, and desiring therefore directions from their Lordships whether it should be respited till the survey can be finished, or prepared by estimate; and the Officers of the Navy being present and giving it as their opinion that the difference can be thought but very little between the state of the King's ships and stores now from what it was at the rising of the Parliament,⁴ the wear and tear of the one and expense of the other equalling, as they conceive, what hath been done on the first and supplied on the latter since that time; It was RESOLVED, That the report should be drawn up upon those measures, and as near as may be to the method wherein the like report was drawn up for his Majesty in January last, and Mr. Pepys was directed to prepare the same accordingly, taking care that mention be made therein of his Majesty's undertaking to the Parliament for the general

¹ See 28th June; and *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xx.

² *Ib.* iii. p. xxiv n.

³ See 21st August.

⁴ Parliament, which had met on 13th April, had been prorogued on 9th June.

repair of the fleet and replenishing of the stores, the former amounting to £144,000¹ and the latter to £95,000 (the whole to £239,000) without any help from them.

Upon reading a complaint of Captain Giles Bond's of some very ill usage he some time since received in the Bay of Biscay in the *St. Ann*[e] merchantman of London, whereof he was master, from a small frigate of Biscay off of Bilbao, according to an extract thereof out of the office of the Admiralty at Bayonne, and the translation thereof by a public notary; the whole business of the outrages committed upon his Majesty's subjects by the ships of neighbour princes was in general discoursed and the same entertained by the several Lords as matter for their future consideration, in order to the providing some method of relief for his Majesty's subjects under them, and particularly whether the same might not in a good part be done by a proclamation notifying the method the King's subjects so wronged shall have to take in their applications for relief on such occasions, either to the Lord Admiral or otherwise, and in the mean time it was RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys do recollect the several particular complaints of this kind that have been brought to the Admiralty, with the informations sufficient to discover and convict the offender, and cause the same to be communicated to the several proper ports and commanders of ships bound out to sea in courses proper for meeting the said offenders, with instructions to seize thereon and bring them into some port within his Majesty's dominions, there to be prosecuted for satisfaction.

A report from the Officers of the Navy . . . presented by them to my Lords this day in the case of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck,² and it appearing upon arguing the same that Sir Thomas Clutterbuck has from the beginning been satisfied all that he has of right to demand of his Majesty, either by contract or commission, and that the allowance he now sues for from his Majesty is in consideration of his layings-out in the entertaining of the King's commands, and charges of journeys, and other solicitations pretended to by him for the necessary promotion and dispatch of his Majesty's service, of which he neither has or seems

¹ MS. '£1,444,000.'

² See 7th August.

prepared to give in a particular account, and therefore depending for his issue upon the free will and bounty of his Majesty only ; It was RESOLVED, That the same be respited to the coming of his Majesty to town and an opportunity of its being brought before him and their Lordships for its being discoursed there.

A petition from Sir William Poole¹ to their Lordships being this day presented and read, confessing his fault and praying their mediation with his Majesty for his forgiving of the same, and the Officers of the Navy (being present) alleging in his behalf that however peccant² they acknowledge him to be in the matter for which he was lately committed, and reasonable that the same should be exemplarily punished, they have observed him in all other matters to have always been as conformable to order, and in particular the Instructions of the Lord High Admiral, in the good government of his ship and performance of his duty there as any commander in the navy ; Their Lordships were pleased to RESOLVE, that as well the petition as this testimony of the Navy Officers should be communicated to his Majesty by the first opportunity of his being present with the Lords of this Board, and Mr. Pepys directed to see the same accordingly done.

Captain Anthony Young to be allowed the sum of £12 10s. ' by him laid out when commander of the Plymouth for the procuring of men.'

Mr. Marlow, the Messenger of the Navy, bringing before my Lords³ Bowles, who, by a late order of their Lordships to the said Marlow directed, were by him taken into custody for arresting without leave of their Lordships — Curtis, purser of his Majesty's ship Monck, their Lordships were pleased to order the said three persons to be discharged, upon the said Bowles's engaging himself forthwith to discharge the said Curtis of his arrest and letting fall his suit, it appearing that the said Bowles had first petitioned their Lordships for leave to arrest Curtis, and had his petition

¹ See 7th August.

² MS. ' pechant.'

³ Space is left here for two other names not filled in.

notified to Curtis in usual form obliging him to give their Lordships a satisfactory account within 12 days of the reason of his not paying the said Bowles the debt by him claimed of him and threatening, upon failure of his giving such an answer, that he should be left to the law. Which declaration of their Lordships the said Bowles misconstruing for leave, he proceeded to the arresting of Curtis, for which he craved their Lordships' pardon and received it, with an offer from their Lordships of giving him leave to arrest the said Curtis if, after the opening of the matter in difference between them and the debate thereon now had before their Lordships, both parties present, the said Bowles should by petition think fit to desire it. The Officers of the Navy also offering, if the said Bowles would be contented to stay his course of payment, to stop the value of the debt due to him from Curtis from the slopseller, who properly seemed chargeable therewith upon opening of the matter, and not by the purser.

A petition of Captain Bernard Phillipps, referred by his Majesty to their Lordships by the hand of Mr. Secretary Coventry, bearing date 11th of this instant August, praying that his pension of 4s. per diem granted him by his Majesty upon Sir Stephen Fox¹ in consideration of losses by him sustained in the quitting of his command in Holland upon his Majesty's proclamation during each of the wars with Holland, which pension (as he setteth forth) hath failed to be paid him for 2 years past, might be removed from Sir Stephen Fox and placed upon the navy, in reference both to his arrears and what should hereafter grow due thereon; RESOLVED, That inquiry be made by Mr. Pepys after the reason of the said pensions being so long unpaid, and that the said reason be reported to his Majesty, but with their humble opinion and advice that (be the reason what it will) it will by no means be fit, for the precedent's sake, that a pension so falling² to the business of the navy should be charged upon it.

¹ Paymaster-general (*D. N. B.* xx. 134).

² 'Falling' is perhaps written in error for 'foreign.'

AUGUST 30, 1675

[At Windsor. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Ossory; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

His Majesty, being attended yesterday by Mr. Pepys with a letter from Sir John Narbrough come to his hand the evening before, bearing date the 11th July last, giving an account of the state of his Majesty's affairs under his conduct against Tripoli, was pleased to order a council of my Lords of the Admiralty this morning, where the said letter being read and consideration had, as well of the late disorder and changes of government within that place¹ and the inclinations they have discovered to a peace with England, as the probability that upon the terms on which Sir John Narbrough is empowered to make peace with that people without insisting upon restitution a peace will be made so soon as his Majesty's said orders of the 14th June last shall arrive with him, and there being considered also the great difficulties, charge, hazard, and success suggested by Sir J. N. in the undertaking either to burn the Tripoleenes' ships or sink ships to block up their port, as also the considerableness of the force his Majesty by this time has and will shortly have before that place, It was RESOLVED, that Sir J. N. should be advised² to forbear the attempting of either, but that he continue as he now doth to prevent any of their ships to go in or out, and wait the issue of it until the arrival of the said orders of the 14th June, and that he sees what he shall be able by that time to do, pursuant to those orders, towards the obtaining of a peace. He is also to be directed, in answer to a query of his how he should behave himself towards all Christian vessel[s] that shall offer to serve that place with any contraband goods, that he forbear to make prize of any of them, lest it should unawares involve his Majesty in any disputes with foreign princes and become a precedent to the greater prejudice of his Majesty's own subjects upon the like occasion hereafter, contenting himself with the returning them back and preventing their going into Tripoli, which he is to see effectually done. He is also,

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xiv.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2536.

out of the contingent money remaining in his hands, to furnish himself with the brass bases and pedereros¹ he demands in his said letter, which are supposed to be best to be had at Malta.

Mr. Pepys acquainting his Majesty and my Lords with the petition of Sir William Poole to my Lords of the Admiralty, and what passed before their Lordships there on the 28th instant, his Majesty and my Lords seemed equally divided between an inclination of favouring Sir William Poole out of regard to his past service and the good character given of him by the Officers of the Navy, and the necessity that a crime so exorbitant and complicated as that for which he stands committed should be made exemplary in its punishment, it being considered that he hath already been 3 weeks in custody and likely (through the want of a competent number of commanders) long to continue so in case he should attend for a trial before a court-martial, which by his late petition to his Majesty he above all things prayed he may be exempted from the dishonour and censure of; It was at length RESOLVED, that it should be left to his choice whether he would wait for and abide by a trial before a court-martial, or forfeit his whole wages for his voyage in the St. David from the beginning to the end of it and make good out of his purse to the poor of the Chest the reasonable freight of all the merchant goods brought by him or his permission from the Barbadoes on board his Majesty's said ship. Which Mr. Pepys is directed to communicate plainly to Sir William Poole,² with the grounds of it, as what his Majesty and their Lordships have determined on with intentions of favour towards him and will unalterably insist upon his submitting to one of them.

Mr. Pepys moving his Majesty that something might be determined touching the method of having satisfaction for the affronts done to his Majesty by the Portuguese at the Madeiras in the case of my Lord Vaughan and Captain Dickenson, by the Duke of Florence at Livorne in the case of Sir John Narbrough,

¹ MS. 'priteroes.' On these guns see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. 109 n.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2533.

as also by the Spaniards of Majorca¹ in the case of the Three Sisters dogger² (Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's vessel) and the St. Anne of London, Giles Bond master, by a Biscayaner off of Bilbao³; Mr. Pepys was directed to prepare the evidences for his Majesty's view against his return with the Court to London, and there to present him with them at his first being present at the Admiralty.

Mr. Secretary Coventry producing a letter from Minehead, giving an account of an Irishman with a [blank] commission that is said to have offered several violencies to his Majesty's subjects off of that port; Mr. Pepys was directed to signify his Majesty's pleasure by the next post⁴ to Captain London, commander of the Norwich lately there, that if he be not gone and can meet with the said caper, he seizes, brings in, and delivers him into the hands of the magistrates of the place, there to be detained till further order.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1675

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven. Navy Officers attending.]

Upon complaint from the Officers of the Navy concerning one Collier,⁵ a seaman, who has been made 'Run' upon several of his Majesty's ships, and nevertheless doth daily and clamorously importune the Officers for his pay, to the interrupting them in their attendance on his Majesty's service; ORDERED, That the said Collier be taken into custody, in order to his being tried by a court-martial.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1675

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

A letter from Sir John Narbrough of 19th July from before Tripoli being read, wherein among other things he

¹ MS. 'May Yorke.'

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2485.

³ See 28th August.

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2532.

⁵ See *ib.*, No. 2545.

gives an account of his having chased on shore and burnt a Tripoleese ship (once a man-of-war, now a merchant-man) out of which he hath taken 98 negroes, men, women, and children, and 24 Greeks, The latter whereof he desires directions as to their being made slaves (they pretending themselves Christians) and the former he hath sent to be sold at Malta, his Majesty and my Lords were pleased to approve of his proceedings touching the negroes, and to resolve, in consideration of the Greeks sailing not as passengers but as of the ship's company, and so in hostility with us, as also of their being dwellers in Tripoli, and consequently unlikely to be Christians otherwise than in pretence, and lastly the unequal advantage the Tripoleens would have over us should Christians be at liberty to serve them against us, they should be made slaves, and ORDERED, that Sir John Narbrough should be directed therein accordingly.¹

Several proposals made by Marchese² Imperiali, a cavalier of Genoa,³ for his undertaking the command, conduct, and expense of his Majesty's two galleys in the Mediterranean at the rate of £5000 a galley yearly upon the terms largely expressed in the said proposal; RESOLVED, that the same should be referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider and report their opinion thereon.

A letter read of the [*blank*], directed to Mr. Secretary Williamson from Rye, giving an account of a rencounter between a French shallop and some Dutch boats belonging to a fleet of Dutch merchantmen, the said boats coming into Rye for provisions for the said fleet, and in conclusion taking and carrying away the said Frenchman, several shot passing from the town during the said rencounter in order to the compelling them to cease from any acts of hostility within his Majesty's harbour, but the Dutch carrying away the Frenchman prisoner and the fleet sailing rendered the same ineffectual.

Mr. Secretary Coventry producing several informations from Dublin⁴ touching a privateer which hath lately been very troublesome on the coast of Ireland near Dublin,⁴ his name Chelin, with a French commission,

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2555.

³ MS. 'Jenova.'

² MS. 'Marquese.'

⁴ MS. 'Doublin.'

and hath thereupon been fetched in by the Monmouth yacht and is now a prisoner at Dublin¹; It was RESOLVED, that the said Chelin, with so many of the ship's company as are his Majesty's subjects, should be proceeded against according to law, and the remainder, with the vessel, set at liberty, and the same committed to Mr. Secretary Coventry to see his Majesty's pleasure notified therein to my Lord Lieutenant.

Mr. Pepys moving his Majesty and my Lords for a declaration when the St. David's late voyage to the Barbadoes shall be reputed to commence, in order to the computing the time from whence Sir William Poole's pay ordered to be stopped for that voyage shall commence (the said ship having been abroad for a considerable time and not laid up and paid off before this her voyage to the Barbadoes); RESOLVED, That the voyage be reputed to commence from her departure from the Downs,² and that upon Sir William Poole's signifying under his hand to Mr. Pepys his submission to and promise of compliance with his Majesty's and their Lordships' late sentence for his forfeiting his pay for the whole voyage as aforesaid, and making good to the poor of the Chest the value of the merchants' goods brought home in his Majesty's said ship on his account (which the Officers of the Navy are to be directed to see performed by him); ORDERED, that a warrant should be issued for his immediate discharge out of the custody he has for 5 weeks been in by order of my Lords of the 7th of August last.

His Majesty and my Lords being informed by Mr. Pepys in the condition wherein 15 of the Blue Coat boys of his Majesty's Royal Foundation at Christ's Hospital are for being sent abroad from thence to sea, as being the fruits of his Majesty's said Mathematical Foundation,³ and the improvements of the said children being made known to his Majesty by reading of a certificate signed by the Master, Wardens, and Assistants of the Trinity House of Deptford Strand (to whom the examination of the said children and certifying of their abilities is

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2550. MS. 'Doublin.'

² See *ib.* No. 2554.

³ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. li n.

by the constitution committed), and the intention of this motion being that his Majesty would be pleased to consider how far he would think fit to express his further bounty to the said Foundation by contributing to the support of the said children in their being placed abroad, either in his own service or otherwise ; his Majesty was pleased to recommend it to my Lords of the Admiralty to consider of this matter at their next meeting with the Governors of the Hospital and Officers of the Navy, and as soon as they shall ripen anything into proportion fit for his Majesty's view, that the same be reported to him, giving leave in the mean time to Mr. Pepys to bring the said children, with some of their Governors, to attend him to-morrow morning, which was accordingly done, Sir John Frederick the President,¹ with Sir Richard Ford,² Sir John Sheldon, and several other aldermen and citizens of London, Governors of the said Hospital, accompanying the said children to his Majesty and rendering his Majesty their most humble acknowledgments of his Majesty's Royal grace and bounty in this his Foundation, which his Majesty was pleased as graciously to receive from them and the said children, and to promise his further care of them.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1675

[*Present* : Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Upon occasion of several masters of ships attending my Lords to be sworn in order to their obtaining of passes, occasion was offered of discoursing the business of denization, and the liableness (notwithstanding any caution that seems yet to be provided against it) the granting of denizations is exposed to of being abused by strangers coming over with a pretence of removing themselves and families hither and purpose of remaining here, but with real intention of doing so no longer than the present advantages arising therefrom shall continue to

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, ii. 382 n. and iii. 127 n.

² See note on p. 229 below.

them. In order to the better prevention whereof, and Mr. Vice-Chamberlain¹ seeming to remember (but with no positiveness) that security hath in this case been heretofore taken for the preventing denizens from withdrawing themselves after denization; It was RESOLVED as a fit matter to be offered to his Majesty in Council, and a memorial ordered to be provided by Mr. Pepys and put into the hand of my Lord Treasurer against next Council day for its being then brought into debate (his Lordship being also desired to cause the Commissioners of the Custom[s] then to attend) what (if anything) can be yet done, either by entering into bond, oath, or other precaution, that may yet more effectually secure the granting of denizations against the collusions it still seems to be liable to.

Sir John Frederick, President, and Sir R. Ford, one of the Governors of Christ's Hospital, attending my Lords touching the children of the new Royal Foundation at Christ's Hospital according to the King's directions the 12th instant, the business of providing for the children when fitted to be sent abroad was taken into consideration, and particularly as well what was presented to their Lordships in writing relating thereto by the said Governors as something propounded by Mr. Pepys on the same subject,² and both the one and the other recommended to the Officers of the Navy to be by them discoursed and adjusted against this day sevensnight, when this matter is to be re-sued.³

Sir Richard Ford taking this opportunity of my Lord Treasurer being present, to desire some issue might be brought to the business of the Navy Office ground in Seething Lane,⁴ London, in reference to the ground adjacent, which his Majesty hath been pleased to design the purchase of for the enlarging of his own, by declaring what the funds are on which my Lord Treasurer will assign the proprietors of the said ground; My Lord

¹ Sir George Carteret.

² See 25th September.

³ Probably a word coined by Pepys. 'Sue' was sometimes used in the sense of to pursue or follow up a subject, but 're-sue' is not known.

⁴ The navy office was in Seething Lane, and the navy already owned several houses there.

Treasurer was pleased to declare that he would grant assignments on that account upon the customs, directing Mr. Pepys—which was accordingly done four days after at Guildhall, Sir Richard Ford being present, but with a denial from Sir Thomas Player¹ to comply therewith (upon Sir Richard Ford's proposing the same to his Lordship)—to discourse with Sir Thomas Player, Chamberlain of London, concerning this matter, letting him know that it would be an acceptable service to his Majesty to accept of tallies on the customs to the value of the sum demanded, and on the said tallies as so much paid upon the score of the same ground (the Act of Parliament requiring all purchase money in this case to be lodged and remain for a certain time in the Chamber of the City²) upon a presumption that the same could be of no injury to him, for that the tallies so to be delivered would become actual money before the time would become expired of the depositeure of the same.

My Lords moving to my Lord Treasurer the present state of the navy³ in reference to money, and the lowness of our stores and backwardness of the repair of our old ships from the want thereof, taking notice of his Majesty's undertaking for the House of Commons their making good the said repairs without assistance of Parliament, from whom he expected only the building of the new; his Lordship was pleased to inform my Lords of his having at this time before him with the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy a consideration of settlement of moneys and methods of payment for the navy for the year ensuing, to the utmost that the present cause of the King's return could admit; adding by way of enquiry that he doubted that the charge of the navy was subject to much miscalculation from their not keeping strictly to the use of estimates, but adventuring upon works either beyond or without them, and without sufficient debate first had at this Board of the necessity of the said works [to] be gone in hand with. Upon

¹ Sir Thomas Player, the city chamberlain, appears as Rabshakeh in Dryden's *Absalom and Achitophel* (*D. N. B.* xlv. 411).

² By § 3 of the Act for rebuilding the navy office (25 Car. II. c. 10).

³ See 28th August.

which Mr. Pepys humbly noting to their Lordships that he did not remember that any, or at least any considerable work has ever been proceeded upon without the orders of their Lordships upon full debate had touching the same, the King for the most part being also present, and estimates prepared and signed by the Officers of the Navy as also signed by their Lordships and put into the hands of the Treasurer of the Navy in order to the procuring of money, thereupon their Lordships were pleased to direct Mr. Pepys to inform himself by particulars touching the works that have [to] be gone in hand with this year, in order to their Lordships' fuller information therein when it shall be required.

RESOLVED, that the new victualling contract be presented to the Board by Mr. Pepys this day seven-night, in order to its being finally concluded and made fit to be presented to his Majesty in Council.

The business of the galley at Tangier was discoursed, with a great charge of maintaining the same without any benefit yet seen from it to his Majesty. RESOLVED, and committed to my Lord Privy Seal, to move the consideration of the retrenching that charge to his Majesty in Council the next sitting.

My Lord Treasurer taking notice to my Lords of several complaints he has received from the Officers of the Customs that much merchants' goods are brought in by the commanders of the King's yachts, and the customs on the same goods stolen; RESOLVED, that the respective commanders of the said yachts be severally writ to, strictly prohibiting them any such practice.

The petition of one Terry for a pass for bringing in of his ship granted, upon bond first by him given that the said ship shall accordingly be brought immediately into some of the King's ports from the port where she lies.

The business of allowing the half-pay to commanders of 1st and 2nd-rate ships coming into debate in order to its finishing; RESOLVED, that the same be respited till his Majesty be present.

Captain Willshaw, late commander of the Reserve,¹

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2574.

complaining against Mills, the present purser thereof, that by the insinuation of the said Mills he hath received much wrong in his reputation in reference to the frauds lately discovered upon that ship's books (or at least pretended to be so discovered by Mr. Jones) ; ORDERED, that the matter of this particular case be referred back to the clerks of the Navy Office to whom the general examination of the said Jones's discoveries was first committed, with direction to the said clerks th[o]roughly to examine and report to their Lordships the state of the differences between the said captain and purser and the truth of the former's said complaint.

SEPTEMBER 24, 1675

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Keeper ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Lieutenant of Ireland¹ ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Sir John Narbrough's letter[s] of the 5th and 9th of August 1675 being read, and the business of restitution to be made by the Tripoleenes considered, who have absolutely refused to do it in money or heads and offered it in salt, which Sir John Narbrough thought not worth his Majesty's taking, and it being considered that the number of Christian slaves (though few the King's subjects) might be great there, and that beside the laudableness of it in itself, nothing could be of more public honour to his Majesty among foreign princes than his taking for satisfaction from the Trippoleens their setting at liberty so many Christians, though not his own subjects.

RESOLVED, that Sir John Narbrough be discharged from his former instructions² for insisting upon head[s], and left at liberty to take satisfaction for his Majesty in Christian slaves, to be chosen at his discretion. RESOLVED also, that the time of year being too late to send from hence the small vessels he desires for the service of Tripoli, he be directed and authorised out of the con-

¹ The Earl of Essex ; see note on p. 198 above.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2578.

tingent money to provide what small vessels can be had at Malta, the said money to be made good to him by others to be remitted from hence.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1675

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Terry's bond ¹ approved.

The Hunter being lately come home from Surinam, and the Guarland, Speedwell, and Deptford ketch ordered from their stations in the Downs to attend the herring-fishery during the season, his Majesty was pleased to declare that the Hunter should be stopped in the Downs from coming presently into the River, whenas she was designed to be paid off, in order to the supplying the want and absence of the said ships for answering the occasions of his Majesty's service in the Downs.²

Mr. Pepys having according to order ¹ consulted the Officers of the Navy touching the best method of disposing of the Blue Coat boys, children of his Majesty's new Royal Foundation in Christ's Hospital, when they shall become fit to be put forth as apprentices, and offering to his Majesty and their Lordships as the result thereof:

1st., That the said children be by no means committed to uncertain masters (as hath been propounded by Sir Richard Ford) or for uncertain voyages, as being neither the way to improve them in skill, keep them in good discipline, or answer the letter of the constitution which obliges them to be bound out as apprentices.

2nd., That they be therefore constantly bound out in that condition, and that therefore the charity which his Majesty is graciously disposed to add to what he has already been pleased to settle upon this his Foundation expressly towards the putting forth the said children as apprentices and encouraging of able masters to take them, may be by allowing to each of the said children

¹ See 18th September.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2572.

the pay of ordinary seamen during the first 3 years of his apprenticeship to be advanced to the master to whom he shall become as an apprentice, with condition that the King shall have the refusal of their service for the last year, the master having his wages, and his wages being made equal to the profiting wages which his master could have made of him in his own service.

By which method

1st., The children would go through the whole labour and practice of navigation.

2nd., The variety of trades they will by the variety of their masters be bred up to, will raise the King a stock of experienced masters to serve him on any occasion of foreign service.

3rd., The King's charge will be paid gradually.

4th., The masters will be under some obligation by their gradual payment and emulation also in the improvement of the boys.

5th., The boys will continue under a constant sense of their obligations and duty to the King.

6th., His Majesty will have a power of proving their proficiencies and employing of their service at the end of their apprenticeships.

Lastly, The number now fitted for putting forth being 15, and the yearly product of the school henceforward (in the opinion of Mr. Leake¹ their master) likely to be 10, the King's charge at the pay of 19s. each per mensem² for the first 3 years of their apprenticeship will amount to the sums following, viz :—

Year	Boys	Sum
1	15	£185. 5. 0
2	25	308. 15. 0
3	35	432. 5. 0
4	30	370. 10. 0
5	30	370. 10. 0

and so the sum of £370. 10. 0 yearly.

His Majesty, with the advice of their Lordships, was

¹ On Mr. Leake, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. 357 n.

² *Ib.*, i. 140.

pleased to approve thereof, ordering that the same should be fitted for practice by an adjustment of all circumstances to be made previous thereto by my Lords.

My Lord Privy Seal acquainting his Majesty that their Lordships had directed a state of the navy,¹ in reference to its charge and wants, to be prepared for his Majesty's view, in the same manner as it had been done in January last, in order to his Majesty informing himself therein, with particular reference to the repair of the old ships which his Majesty had declared to the Parliament his taking upon himself to see done without their aid, and Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty that the same was in readiness for his view when he should be pleased to call for it; his Majesty was pleased to declare that he would appoint a particular time for his receiving the same from their Lordships.

A petition of Mrs. Finch's² being read, craving their Lordships' mediation with the King for the granting her a quit-rent, therein specified, in Ireland, in compensation of her father's service and death in the last war with the Dutch; his Majesty was pleased to ORDER, that the same be referred and recommended to my Lords of the Committee for the Irish Affairs.

A motion being made in behalf of the late Commissioners for the Widows and Orphans of Seamen slain in his Majesty's service during the late war,³ in order to their having some gratuity for their service which they did his Majesty therein, and is said to have been performed greatly to the benefit of his Majesty and content of the poor concerned; His Majesty was pleased to refer the consideration thereof to my Lords upon information first given their Lordships from the affairs of the navy touching the nature and value of their service and what was allowed by his Majesty on the like occasion in the preceding war.

His Majesty was pleased to declare his pleasure that the Charles yacht,⁴ newly built by Sir Anthony Deane, be taken into the list and charge of his Royal Navy, and forthwith fitted in all respects for his service therein.

¹ See 28th August.

² See 26th June.

³ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 134.

⁴ See 28th July.

Captain Leonard Harris ¹ to receive a medal.

My Lord Treasurer being informed at the Board that the victualling contract was now perfectly finished, saving the agreeing upon another person to be propounded by Sir Denis Gauden in the room of Mr. Sturt,² who desires to be no longer interested in that affair, the same was committed to his Lordship in order to his taking his satisfaction therein, and more particularly in reference to the method by this contract assigned for payments, after which it is to be brought for confirmation before his Majesty in Council.

A petition being read from some merchants interested in the ship *Rooth*,³ lately taken by a Sallee-man and afterwards retaken by Sir Richard Rooth and sent into Tangier, wherein the said petitioners pray that she may be restored to them paying salvage, It was committed to my Lord Privy Seal to see that the said petition be moved at the Council Board the next Council day in favour to the petitioners, provided that the value of what shall be so granted them be first employed to the redeeming of his Majesty's subjects taken out of her and made slaves of by the Sallee-man.

Sir Richard Ford ⁴ attending with a petition desiring that a vessel may be sent out to ply as high as Yarmouth for securing the coming in of some ships daily expected from Hamburg, which by the French King's late declaration of a war with that town may be in danger, the same was agreed to, and Mr. Pepys directed to provide a warrant for his Majesty's signing for the appointing one of the ships whose station is in the Downs forthwith to attend that service.⁵

A pass being desired by one Seager, a Dutchman, now said to be become an inhabitant here and at present gone to fetch over his family and estate; RESOLVED, that the solicitor be directed to bring some merchants or

¹ See p. 160 above.

² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 165; also *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2580, 2581.

³ For later references to this, see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2726.

⁴ On Alderman Sir Richard Ford, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. 175 n.

⁵ A letter to this effect had been already sent; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2577.

other citizens of good credit to prove the said Seager's pretended settlement of himself and family here, and of his having hired a house in London to that purpose.

A pass being desired by Mr. Buckle of 4 ships of English propriety now abroad, for the bringing them into England; RESOLVED, That no such general pass shall be granted without particular names of the ships distinctly given in, and the English propriety distinctly proved.

OCTOBER 2, 1675

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Arlington¹; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Sir Robert Robinson's pension to begin 'from the determination of his pay upon the Royal Oak, which he had a command of in the transportation of her to Chatham.'

Upon a motion to that purpose humbly made to his Majesty and my Lords by Mr. Pepys touching the expediency of having his Majesty's intended bounty towards the putting forth of his poor Blue Coat boys to apprenticeship² confirmed at the Council Board in order to its being there confirmed and his Majesty's grant thereof apposed³ under the great seal; His Majesty and their Lordships were pleased to approve thereof, directing Mr. Pepys to provide a memorial to be presented there containing the whole substance of what has been proposed and allowed of by his Majesty in this matter, as also the further request made by the Governors of the said Hospital at their attendance on his Majesty here this day, viz,—That the allowance now granted by his Majesty may be made payable to the Treasurer of

¹ Lord Arlington had at first attended the admiralty commission regularly as a secretary of state, but on 11th Sept., 1674, he had resigned his office and had been succeeded by Sir Joseph Williamson. In December, 1674, he was sent to Holland on a diplomatic mission, and this probably accounts for his long absence from the meetings of the admiralty.

² See 25th September.

³ MS. 'opposed.' The word 'appose' is used of applying a seal to a document.

the Hospital yearly at Christmas, the first payment to begin the Christmas now at hand, and that as well his Majesty's original bounty to this Foundation as¹ this additional may be so settled in the manner of its payments as that the children may have full benefit without any diminution by fees or other charges attending the same.

RESOLVED, that a copy of the complaint of Mr. Horngold, master of a merchant-vessel injured by a French man-of-war, be delivered to a Secretary of State, in order to the demanding of satisfaction for the same.

His Majesty is pleased to direct that a suit of silk colours be forthwith provided for his new yacht, the Charles.

Colonel Phillipps² petitioning his Majesty and that petition referred to my Lords of the Admiralty, praying that forasmuch as consideration of his quitting his command in Holland to serve his Majesty here in the late wars against the Dutch, his Majesty has been pleased to grant him a yearly allowance payable by Sir Stephen Fox which was now greatly in arrear, he might have the same paid, and for the time to come settled upon the navy, and his Majesty being informed by Mr. Pepys that upon inquiry by him made to that purpose he finds that the non-payment of the said pension for so long time backward by Sir Stephen Fox has arisen from the petitioner's incapacity to receive the same as being a Roman Catholic; RESOLVED, that the petitioner can have no relief from his Majesty in the premises.

The petition of Gunner Curtis for 'his Majesty's bounty as a superannuated officer' rejected, as not coming within the establishment.

His Majesty being moved for his th[o]rough determinations in the case of commanders' half-pay to be allowed to the 1st and 2nd-rate ships during [the time] they lie out of employment,³ in the list whereof exception lies only against two, viz., Colonel Legge⁴ in considera-

¹ MS. 'as well as.'

² See 28th August.

³ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 146.

⁴ Colonel George Legge, afterwards Lord Dartmouth, had commanded the Royal Katherine, a 2nd-rate, in 1673. He had been appointed lieutenant-governor of Portsmouth in 1670.

tion of his employment as Deputy-Governor of Portsmouth, and Sir John Ernle¹ with reference to his command of a company in Ireland; his Majesty, with the assent of my Lords, was pleased to determine that Colonel Legge's said employment ought not to be any impediment to his enjoying his Majesty's allowance of half-pay, in regard that he came to his said employment not by his Majesty's gift but his own purchase, with the like in favour of Sir John Ernle, partly for that he was in possession of his said employment before the date of the establishment of the half-pay, but more especially in consideration that he is the only person of all now surviving that would want the benefit of this his Majesty's bounty in case it should be denied him, so as besides the removing of that discouragement which he alone would lie under in case the contrary should be insisted on, the granting of him cannot be of charge to his Majesty in the precedent of it to any that can pretend interest in the benefit of the said establishment.

Sir Thomas Allin² being present, took this occasion of moving his Majesty and my Lords that, forasmuch as himself with Sir Jeremiah Smyth³ and Sir Richard Haddock⁴ were the only survivors of all that have served his Majesty in the quality of flag-officers and do not receive benefit of his Majesty's establishment of pensions to the flag-officers,⁵ they might be admitted to the same, notwithstanding the only objection made thereto, which is their employments as Principal Officers and Commissioners in the navy, Which they conceive ought not to be any impediment to them in regard of the determination made touching the construction of this

¹ Sir John Ernle had commanded the *Henry*, a 2nd-rate, in 1673.

² Comptroller of the navy. He had been appointed admiral of the blue in 1665, admiral of the white in 1666, and had subsequently acted as the admiral of a fleet.

³ Comptroller of the victuallers' accounts. He had been appointed admiral of the blue in 1666, and in 1668 he had served under Sir Thomas Allin as vice-admiral of the fleet in the Channel.

⁴ Sir Richard Haddock would claim to come under the establishment for pensions as captain of a flag-ship—first of the *Royal Charles* and afterwards of the *Sovereign*—in 1673.

⁵ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 145.

word *Employment* in the case of the Earl of Ossory.¹ RESOLVED, that the debate hereof be respited till the next meeting, when the letter of the Council's Order and the forementioned determination of the Lords thereon are to be read and the reason thereof debated.

The discourse had on this matter giving Mr. Speaker occasion of taking notice of the very great charge he observes his Majesty to be at in the extraordinary allowances claimed by the Comptroller and other of the Officers of the Navy and their clerks attending of pays at the Pay Office in Broad Street,² where reasonably his Majesty ought to know no more charge than for any other service done in town at the Navy Office or elsewhere, and the Comptroller of the Navy giving his Majesty and my Lords no satisfactory answer thereto ; It was RESOLVED, that no such allowance should be made for diet to any of the Officers of the Navy residing in town for service done therein, and that the whole matter of travelling charges for the Officers and clerks upon occasions of service out of town be examined, stated, and reported to his Majesty and their Lordships in order to the bringing the same to a further settlement than that matter seems hitherto to have been in.

The report of the clerks of the navy touching the difference betwixt Captain Willshaw and his purser³ being read, Captain Willshaw is not judged to have fully cleared himself in the matter wherein he stands charged, together with the said purser, in the ill-keeping of the books of the Reserve, and so no ground for his late complaint against the said purser.

Several applications being made to my Lords of the Admiralty for passes against the Turks for ships going out from out-ports, where by the rules lately established in Council⁴ passes are to be issued only from the civil magistrate of the place, while, on the other side, by the Treaty with the Turks no passes are of authority with

¹ The Earl of Ossory had been appointed vice-admiral of the red after the action of June 1673, and had received a flag-officer's pension when out of employment.

² See H. B. Wheatley, *Pepysiana*, p. 206.

³ See 18th September. See also *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2574.

⁴ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xx.

them but what are signed by the Lord High Admiral; It was RESOLVED, that in such cases the late rules of the Council Board could not be interpreted to the granting to the King's subjects passes that would not be sufficient for them, and that therefore, upon certificates brought in due form from the out-ports in the method established by the said rules, the Lords of the Admiralty are to grant their passes against the Turks to ships bound to sea from the out-ports.

His Majesty was pleased to put into the hands of my Lords some papers from Jones containing his demands of further satisfaction for his late pretended discoveries, which being read, my Lords gave his Majesty an account of what had been done in reference thereto, and shewed him that nothing more could be reasonably expected by Jones for the same.

His Majesty and my Lords being informed by the Judge of the Admiralty touching the six men lately condemned at a Sessions of the Admiralty upon account of piracy upon the ship St. Peter of Bremen, his Majesty was pleased that the commander thereof, Captain Thomas Winterflood, and he only should suffer, and that the remainder should be pardoned out of his Royal grace to them, and the consideration of their being misled thereto by their commander.

OCTOBER 9, 1675

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Arlington; Lord Craven; Lord Ossory; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty was pleased to bring in to my Lords and delivered to them with his own hand an account of Sir Samuel Morland's¹ for moneys by him disbursed for pumps and other engine[s] relating to the navy by him made by his Majesty's immediate direction and for his use, as also of the charges yet unsatisfied upon the mill by him set up in the dock at Chatham, according to the

¹ On Sir Samuel Morland, the inventor, see *D. N. B.* xxxix. 68. He had been a fellow of Magdalene and Pepys's college tutor.

particulars and vouchers expressed in the papers so delivered in by the King, in the truth whereof his Majesty declaring himself satisfied, and directing that, in regard it was for money laid out of purse by his own personal order and for his own use, Sir Samuel Morland should receive present satisfaction to the full value thereof out of any moneys remaining in the Treasurer of the Navy's hands, without staying for other course of payment. *RESOLVED*, on those considerations, that an order be given to the Officers of the Navy for their satisfying and paying the same accordingly.

Mr. Pepys presenting his Majesty and my Lords this day, according to order,¹ with the original establishment made by his Majesty in Council of pensions to the flag-officers, with the explanation thereof made by his Majesty and their Lordships to the Officers of the Navy the 25th of July last, and the ground of the said establishment being thoroughly considered and debated; It was *RESOLVED*, that Sir Thomas Allin, Sir Jer[emy] Smyth, and Sir Richard Haddock's employments as Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy ought to be esteemed as sea employments, and that they the said Officers ought not to pretend to any benefit from the said establishment during their continuance in the said employments.

His Majesty being also pleased to deliver to my Lords a paper from Mr. Jones repeating¹ his solicitations for more money to be allowed him from his Majesty for his pretended services for the discovering frauds, his Majesty was informed from their Lordships in the issue that matter had been brought to, and declared his satisfaction in what had been done therein in reference to Mr. Jones's encouragement for his said services.

The business of the galley at Tangier being again debated,² and several considerations urged for and against the continuance of her in charge, the further debate thereof was referred to this day sennight, in order to their coming to a full determination concerning her.

A motion being made by his Majesty touching a desire of Mr. Pett, a shipwright at Woolwich, that whereas he now serves under the title and wages but of an assistant

¹ See 2nd October.

² See 18th September.

to the master-shipwright of Deptford, he may be thought worthy of being made independent upon Deptford (as the master attendant of Woolwich lately was) and his wages raised to that of the master-shipwright of some other yard; and his Majesty being pleased to speak in favour of the abilities and diligence of the said Mr. Pett, it was RESOLVED, that the consideration and reporting of the reasonableness or unreasonableness of this his request be referred to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy, upon which their Lordships will give his Majesty their opinion therein.

The anchorsmith of Portsmouth petitioning that some arrears due to him from his Majesty for goods detained into his stores be satisfied out of what quantity of Swedes' ² iron of the King's remaining in the stores there, the same was denied, as a thing of evil precedent and speaking too much partiality to the petitioner above the rest of the creditors of the navy.

Mr. Pepys acquainting his Majesty and my Lords with what he has by letter understood touching the Guernsey's going from Tangier with merchants' goods to Cadiz, in an extraordinary ³ manner, at the request (as is pretended) of the merchants, and with the leave, and if not by the order, of the Governor; RESOLVED, that the said commander, Captain Royden, be called to a strict account for it at his coming home, and the Governor be rebuked by his Majesty for the same in case it shall appear that this was done by his order.

11 OCTOBER, 1675

[In the Council Chamber. *Present*: Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker.]

Captain Booth ⁴ (lately come up the River with the

¹ On the various members of the Pett family see *D. N. B.* xlv. 102-5. In the *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.* (ii. 92 n., iii. 71 n.), this Phineas Pett was described in error as already master-shipwright at Woolwich; but Pepys himself makes the same mistake in *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1341, 1671, 1877. ² MS. 'Sweads.'

³ In the now obsolete sense of 'not according to rule,' 'out of order.'

⁴ Captain Thomas Booth; see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, ii. 218 n.

Pearl) having sent up one Lieutenant Jeremiah Norton with 4 persons more as prisoners, whom he had lately apprehended near Harwich serving under one Captain Hurst with a French commission against the Dutch in a small hoy called the Swan of Calais,¹ the said persons were all examined, and it appeared by the confession of Captain Booth himself and his company that the said persons with their hoy did voluntarily make known to Captain Booth (without any knowledge or inquiries on his part) that they did serve under French commission, saying that since they had at Harwich understood that the same [w]as forbidden by the King they would serve no longer in that capacity, as having been misled to it by Captain Hurst, who they say left the vessel at Langer Point² and never appeared since, nevertheless for as much as the said persons did actually serve under a French commission with design of hostility upon the allies of his Majesty's, contrary to the express words of the Treaty, and that they presumed to lie within his Majesty's Chambers³ for the execution of this commission, and had actually done it, had they continued there a day longer, upon a rich Hamburger which they were in expectation of, their Lordships were pleased to approve of what Captain Booth had done in bringing of them up prisoners, and ORDERED their being committed to the⁴ Marshal's, with liberty to be given them upon bail if they desire it. As also that an arrest should be kept upon their vessel brought in with them by Captain Booth, and that a warrant be issued to the Marshal of the Admiralty for the searching for and securing of Captain Hurst in case he be to be found.

¹ MS. 'Callice.'

² Landguard Point, at the mouth of the Orwell, opposite Harwich. There is still a 'Langer Road' in Felixstowe.

³ On the limits of the king's chambers, see T. W. Fulton, *The Sovereignty of the Sea*, p. 753.

⁴ MS. 'his.'

OCTOBER 16, 1675

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Lord Arlington; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

A letter from Sir John Berry . . . being read, giving an account of the state of the English fishery in Newfoundland,¹ with several informations therein differing from the measures by which the last determinations in Council touching that trade were calculated, Mr. Pepys was directed to have the said letters, and papers annexed, in readiness for the attending the Lords of the Council concerning that particular affair, when the same shall be called for.

The business of the galley at Tangier being by order ² this day taken into solemn consideration, his Royal Highness present, his R.H. was pleased to present his Majesty with a paper containing the considerations heretofore leading his Majesty to the building of the said galley, and fit now to be weighed in ³ order to the keeping her. If which, forasmuch as a considerable part thereof depends for its force upon the truth of the calculations of the charge of maintaining the said galley, which appears greatly different from those the Officers of the Navy do compute the same at, It was RESOLVED, that the disposal of the said galley otherwise than for the use she was intended for be forborne until the calculations in his Highness's said pay ⁴ can be overlooked by the Officers of the Navy, who are to be required to see the same done and report their opinions thereon to their Lordships, upon which my Lords will move his Majesty to the further considering this matter.

Mr. Pepys humbly representing to his Majesty and my Lords that in order to the making the present victualing contract as effectual in the execution as now it is

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xxiv n., and *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2668.

² See 9th October.

³ MS. 'into.'

⁴ Possibly in mistake for 'paper.' The minutes for this day are hastily written, and there are other more obvious errors which have been corrected in the printed text.

like to be in the terms of it, to his Majesty's benefit, and to that end their Lordships may have it within their constant view whether and how far the same does so prove truly effectual in those parts thereof wherein his Majesty's service seems principally concerned, It would be requisite that a scheme be prepared and established by which the Comptroller of the Victualling of the Navy may be directed in the hoping ¹ of the constant account of the action of the victualling, and enjoined to the presenting the same monthly to their Lordships in the same manner as the Lord Brouncker ² does his certificate weekly in relation to the Treasurer of the Navy; and Mr. Pepys therewith tendering a specimen of such a scheme, the same was viewed, considered, with the uses of it, and, with approbation of the Officers of the Navy attending, confirmed, and ORDERED to be established for practice by their Lordships' warrant to the Officers of the Navy to that purpose.

Their Lordships being acquainted that the clerk of his Majesty's rope-yard at Portsmouth was, contrary to practice, arrested without the leave of their Lordships; ORDERED, that as well the officers serving the said arrest as the parties at whose suit the same was done be taken into custody.

ORDERED, That the last declaration of victuals for Tangier be considered and speedily supplied.

Advance of £50 to Lady Duteil on her late husband's account with the King.

The disbursements of Mr. Skinner, late Consul at Livorne, 'by directions from my Lord Arlington and for his Majesty's service in the providing and disposing of several seamen by his Majesty's subjects there during the late war' to be satisfied.

Articles being this day presented to their Lordships by Mills, purser of the Reserve, against Captain Willshaw, his late commander,³ the same was referred to the examination of the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy.

¹ Perhaps written in error for 'keeping.'

² Comptroller of the treasurer's accounts. See *D. N. B.* vi. 469.

³ See 2nd October.

The like upon a petition of one Lloyd in right of his brother, late purser of the Charles, praying allowance of supernumeraries.

The like upon the petition of Mrs. Tucker, house-keeper of the Hill House at Chatham.

Lieutenant Norton, belonging to the Swan hoy of Calais, lately committed with his companions to the Marshalsea¹ (*vide* October 11), complaining that they cannot give bail, and therefore desired to be discharged; ORDERED, that they be set at liberty upon their being bound one for another for their appearance.

ORDERED, that the Commissioners for Sick and Wounded² be directed to discharge the debt yet unsatisfied at Weymouth and Portland upon the account of prisoners taken in the late war and put on shore there out of the ship Arms of Horn,³ they being prisoners at war, and consequently the charge thereof by constant practice to be borne by his Majesty and not the Lord High Admiral, though the value of the ship out of which they were taken belong wholly to the Admiral.

OCTOBER 30, 1675

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do prepare a memorial, to be presented to his Majesty in Council the next Council day, containing the propositions lately made to and allowed of by his Majesty for a provision for the putting forth the children of his new Royal Foundation as apprentices⁴; the same to be delivered to the Earl of Anglesey to that purpose.⁵

An account was this day presented to the Lords from Sir William Doyley of his late receipts and payments to the creditors for sick and wounded seamen within

¹ The Marshalsea court and prison were under the control of the knight-marshal of the household, but the prison was used for general purposes. It had no special connexion with the marshal of the admiralty.

² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 133.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2375.

⁴ See *ib.*, No. 2608.

⁵ See 2nd October.

his district, and a copy thereof ordered to be delivered to Sir John Pettus,¹ from whom complaints have lately come to their Lordships in behalf of the said creditors [against] Sir William Doyley.

Sir John Berry's letter of the 26th September read, giving an account of his proceedings with his fishing-convoy returning from Newfoundland towards the Straits.²

Sir John Narbrough's letter . . . read, giving an account of his proceedings against Tripoli, and the case of Captain Killigrew's long absence from thence with his two fireships³ opened by Mr. Pepys to their Lordships beyond orders.

Captain Hurst, commander of the small French privateer whose lieutenant and some others of her company were committed to the Marshalsea 11th instant, appearing to my Lords in justification of his employment in the said privateer under the King of France his commission as being a naturalised subject of France, his commission was produced, viewed, and being found to run in express terms against the Dutch contrary to the letter of our Treaty with them, their Lordships thought fit to detain from him the said commission, and to declare that unless he could give security for his appearance he should be forthwith committed to the Marshalsea to answer this his breach of duty towards the King; upon which Hurst answering that instead of bail (which he declared he could not presently give) he was willing to oblige his said vessel the *Swan* for his appearance, asserting the propriety of the vessel to be wholly his, and being therein seconded by one Mr. Francis Mammingham, a merchant and inhabitant in Calais, now present, their Lordships were pleased to ORDER, that the said vessel should be accepted as a pledge for his appearance, as also that this whole matter be stated to the Judge of the Admiralty for his opinion what is fit to be done with Hurst, and lastly, that their Lordships' warrant to the Marshal of the Admiralty for taking the said Hurst into custody to be recalled.

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, ii. 311 n.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2619.

³ *Ib.* On Captain Killigrew, see *D. N. B.*, xxxi. 109.

Memorandum. That Mr. Secretary Williamson did on this occasion move that something might be effectually thought on for preventing the evils of having the commissions of foreign princes (which are indeed legal) executed in the King's Chambers by the persons to whom the said commissions are granted and who are said to lie ordinarily hovering in and about the said Chambers in expectation of prey, to the great violation of the government and privilege of those places.

The petition of Julian, late servant to Sir Edward Spragge, for some considerations for the decay of his sight in his Majesty's service, and of Captain Wright in relation to his being allowed the wages of captain of the *Bezan*¹ for some time after his removal from thence into the Kitchen yacht, read and referred to the Officers of the Navy.

The report of the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy in the case of Mr. Boyce being read, and he judged fit to be relieved therein, the evil he suffers through the delay given him in the passing of his bill for the freight of a ship hired of him by the Officers of the Navy for the carrying of stores to Port Mahon for his Majesty's service not arising from any defect on his part but from some difficulties unavoidably met therein on the King's ; It was RESOLVED, that forasmuch as although the said Boyce's demand of satisfaction for the damage by him so sustained by the loss of time in his payment be just, yet the same cannot be complied with now by present payment without great inconvenience (through the precedent of it) to his Majesty's service, the case of the said Mr. Boyce be reported to my Lord Treasurer at his next being present at this Board, in order to the finding out some expedient for the satisfying of him that may be effectual to him and not otherwise inconvenient to his Majesty.

Sarah Coe, 'wife of one of the 5 men left by Sir John Narbrough at Valdivia² as being detained there by the Spaniards,' to have her husband's pay.³

¹ MS. 'Mizen.'

² MS., here and elsewhere, 'Baldivia.'

³ See p. 250 below.

NOVEMBER 20, 1675

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Lord Ossory.
Navy Officers attending.]

After some interruption to the sitting of my Lords since their meeting in Parliament, their Lordships this day met, and in the first place received and considered his Majesty's Order in Council, dated 12th instant, confirming his bounty lately determined on by him towards the putting forth the children of his new Royal Foundation as apprentices, wherein some things being yet left to be adjusted by their Lordships upon information first had from the Officers of the Navy and Governors of Christ's Hospital, their Lordships were pleased to respite their further debate of the said matter until they shall have an opportunity of conferring with the said Officers and Governors about it.

A report from the Officers of the Navy being read,¹ touching the reasonableness of the shipwright's assistant at Woolwich his being made a master-shipwright without dependence upon the master-shipwright of Deptford, with an increase of salary suitable thereunto, and their Lordships being satisfied in the same; **RESOLVED**, that it be reported to his Majesty at our next attendance on him upon the business of the Admiralty as our opinions, that the said shipwright's assistant be raised to the title and wages of a master-shipwright accordingly.

The Lords approve the suspension by the Navy Officers of Thomas Bartrum, foreman of the rope-yard at Woolwich.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck addressing himself to my Lords by petition,² for their allowing to all the vessels which shall be by him employed within the Straits for the carrying of provisions and stores for his Majesty's service that they may bear his Majesty's jack during the said employment, the matter was thought of too great consequence, both in its granting and denying, to be presently determined on; and therefore **RESOLVED**, to suspend their coming to any conclusion in't until they have further thought and discoursed of't at another meeting.

¹ See 9th October.

² See 21st August.

Mr. Pepys informing their Lordships that Collier, lately by them committed to the Marshalsea¹ for deserting of his Majesty's service, is said to be lately dead there, with some insinuation of his dying for want of nourishment²; Mr. Pepys was directed to write by their Lordships' command to the Marshal of the Admiralty for satisfaction therein.

The officers of the ordinary at Chatham[s] petition that their duty of lodging every night on board, which has been exacted from them ever since the raising of their harbour wages to sea wages,³ may be extenuated by its being brought to their lodging of two only of their number on board by turns each night, ORDERED to be referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider and report how far any such extenuation of duty may be reasonably allowed with respect to the safety of the King's ships and the late great increase of charge to the King by the said raisings of harbour wages.

Supernumeraries to be allowed upon the Charles.⁴

A pass being demanded from my Lords for a ship now lying at Edinburgh, Scotland, bound to the southward, which can only be granted from the Admiral of England, parties soliciting for the same are directed to provide certificates from thence in the manner appointed by the rules lately established at the Council Table (a copy whereof was to that purpose given the Lord Duke of Lauderdale) upon producing whereof with proof of her English propriety, a pass would be allowed of.

Mr. Pepys moving for directions for putting the victuals on board the *Guarland* for the soldiers going on her to Tangier⁵; ORDERED, that the same be respited until the number and method of paying the charge for transporting the said soldiers be further adjusted than their Lordships judged [it] yet to be at the Council Table.

¹ See 11th September.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2638.

³ See 6th March.

⁴ A 1st-rate.

⁵ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2637. The minute originally ran: 'going over in her,' but 'over in' is altered to 'on.' The alteration does not appear to be in Pepys's hand.

My Lords being again moved by some servants of his Royal Highness's for right against Captain Shales¹ in reference to his denying them satisfaction for their victuals not issued to them during his Royal Highness's last voyage, their Lordships were pleased to refer it to Mr. Pepys to discourse with both sides and compose the matter between them, or otherwise report the same to their Lordships.

Mr. Pepys moving my Lords that a time may be obtained of his Majesty for settling a general declaration for the next year, and in order thereto for putting an end to the finishing the new victualling contract, which stops for want of a fifth person to be agreed to for contractor² in the room of Mr. Sturt; RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys do move his Majesty for a time to be appointed for that purpose accordingly.

The report of the Navy Officers of the state of the Tangier victualling³ read.

There was also read their opinion of the requisiteness of having the galley there sheathed with lead,⁴ and notice taken of the usefulness which probably the said galley may now prove to his Majesty in case the present discourses of a breach likely to happen with Algier should prove true. RESOLVED, that the sheathing of the galley with lead be proposed to their Lordships when his Majesty shall be present.

Upon a petition of Mr. Soleby's the Apothecary, praying payment for an arrear of pension due to him, and which upon enquiry proves to be a part of the old debt of the navy said to have been secured upon the Wine Act,⁵ Mr. Pepys is ordered to inform himself in order to the informing their Lordships touching the state of that debt and that assignment upon the Wine Act, in reference to what has been paid and may hereafter expect to be paid thereon.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2642.

² See 25th September.

³ See 16th October.

⁴ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xlvii.

⁵ See note on p. 315 below.

NOVEMBER 22, 1675

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

His Majesty being pleased to appoint a special council this day for considering of what further instructions would be fit at this time to send to Sir John Narbrough touching the war with Tripoli, in reference either to the continuing thereof or putting an end to it without satisfaction given by them other than the discharging of all the strangers passengers taken in our two ships carried in by them (which letter had for the speedier putting an end to that war been in proposition before his Majesty); RESOLVED, that the war should be carried on without departing from the terms of peace last determined on, and that this his Majesty's pleasure be accordingly signified by this post by Mr. Secretary Coventry to that purpose.

RESOLVED also, that for the preventing as much as may be the abuses incident to the employing of our passes to the Straits on strangers' ships and the counterfeiting of passes, which may give any just or pretended ground to the Turks of breaking with us,¹ our passes should be printed and indented as they heretofore were, and the seeing the same executed committed to the care of Mr. Pepys.

NOVEMBER 27, 1675

[*Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty was pleased to acquaint my Lords that the Charles yacht, lately built by Sir Anthony Deane and put into the charge of the Officers of the Navy, and entered into the list of the Navy Royal,² was built by

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xviii., and *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2631.

² The Charles yacht was built at Rotherhithe by Sir Anthony Deane in 1675, and appears in Pepys's Register (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 294).

particular contract made between his Majesty and him, and that having fully satisfied himself in the said Sir Anthony Deane's full performance of the said contract on his part, and paid out of his privy purse to the said Sir Anthony £1000 in part of the price of the said yacht, which his Majesty was pleased to declare to be £1500; It was his pleasure that the remaining £500 should be made good to him out of the Treasury of the Navy by an order to be issued to that purpose by their Lordships to the Officers of the Navy, who are also to make out a particular estimate in due form for the same.

His Majesty's Order in Council bearing date 12th instant being read, relating to the confirming his additional bounty and establishment for support of the children of his new Royal Foundation in Christ's Hospital,¹ and the same by particulars discoursed; It was RESOLVED, That the same should immediately be put into a way of execution by their Lordships preparing the matter of the bill which the Attorney-General is to draw up for his Majesty's signing, in order to a great seal to be passed for the same. The said matter being first digested upon discourse with the Officers of the Navy to be had thereon, to be afterwards put into the hands of one of the Secretaries of State as the ground of the warrant to the Attorney-General, my Lord Treasurer being also pleased to undertake for his Majesty's said bounty and resolutions in the said Order of Council being effectually made good in reference to such parts of the said Order as respects his Lordship.

The King is inclined to lend Sir Robert Holmes² 'a dogger for the fetching of some wine from Nantes'; but 'it was found upon overlooking the list that his Majesty is master but of one dogger, and she lent to the Guinea Company, in whose service she now is.'

Sir Denis Gauden, Sir Denny Ashburnham, and Mr. Jaggard attending his Majesty this day, in the name of the whole number of the victuallers of the navy,³ to receive his Majesty's determination touching the filling up the vacancy in that number occasioned by Mr. Sturt's being

¹ See 20th November.

² *D. N. B.*, xxvii. 194.

³ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 164-5.

discharged therefrom,¹ and Sir Denis Gauden presenting my Lords with a letter which was read, wherein he endeavours to shew that the reasons on which the multitude of contractors was first grounded are by the extraordinary terms of this contract removed, and that if, nevertheless, his Majesty and my Lords shall think fit that the number of five be still made up, the addition of another son, Mr. Jonathan Gauden, added to Mr. Benjamin Gauden, who is already a contractor, can be of no prejudice to his Majesty, and is a person very acceptable to all the rest of the contractors, which they being present declared their assent to, provided that a clause might be added to the contract for preventing the employing any part of the money which shall be paid by his Majesty upon account of this contract to the private use of any particular contractor without the assent first had of every particular member of their number ; and it being also by them moved that the contract now in passing between his Majesty and them may commence from the 1st of January last, at which time the pretences of the late victuallers to any interest in that employment were finally at an end, It was RESOLVED, that Mr. Jonathan Gauden should accordingly be accepted of, with such a clause added, and the contract dated to begin from 1st January last, and that the said new contract be now dispatched accordingly, and sent to the Attorney-General in order to its passing the great seal.

The report of the Officers of the Navy being read touching the master-shipwright at Woolwich,¹ giving their opinions that the present work and trust belonging to that employment there doth justly call at this day for a particular master-shipwright, independent upon him of Deptford, and that being allowed no assistant he may well deserve the wages allowed to the master-shipwright of Deptford or Portsmouth ; RESOLVED, That henceforward the master-shipwright of Woolwich be independent upon any other yard, and receive wages equal to the master-shipwright of Portsmouth, with condition of being excluded from any future pretence to the having an assistant.

¹ See 20th November.

A petition being read from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, shewing the inconveniences his Majesty's service is exposed to by his vessels not being at liberty to wear his Majesty's jack¹ while employed from port to port in the Straits for the providing and transporting of provisions for the use of his fleet there, The same was debated, together with the abuses that liberty might be subject to, to the occasioning of a rupture with the Turks ; and it being also considered whether by the care of the King's Consuls of the several ports where the said vessels shall come (in case Sir T. C. shall agree to make use of no other ports than where there are Consuls) that abuse may not be prevented, they seeing that no other goods on any pretence be put on board the said vessels save only his Majesty's ; RESOLVED, that it be referred to the Navy Officers to inquire more distinctly, and report to my Lords how far they judge his Majesty concerned either to his advantage or prejudice in the granting or refusing this petition.

The Officers of the Navy having by letter taken notice of what they observe touching the frequent victualling of the ships in the Straits, the same being found to be done sooner than by their calculations the said ships can be supposed to want, and they believing the same to arise from their not being put to short allowance, according to the common practice of his Majesty's ships in that case ; RESOLVED, that the same be noted to Sir John Narbrough in the next letter, with the signification of his Majesty's pleasure that the fleet under him be kept to short allowance.²

The case of the ship *Rooth*³ being by Order of Council (this day read) referred to the examination of my Lords of the Admiralty, it was considered that the Admiralty of Tangier lying not within the jurisdiction of their Lordships (which is restrained to England) the reference was misdirected ; and thereupon RESOLVED, that for saving time to the parties concerned they would set it forward by referring it to the Judge of the Admiralty, but with direction to address his report thereupon to his Majesty in Council and not to this Board.

¹ See 20th November. ² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2671.

³ See 25th September.

The petition of Sarah Coe,¹ whose husband (among others) was kept by the Spaniards in Valdivia, being read, praying allowance of her husband's wages from his being so detained on shore (to which time she is already paid) to the paying off of Sir John Narbrough's ships; It was RESOLVED, her distress being extraordinary, and her case unlikely to turn to any charge to the King by the precedent of it, she should be paid what she desires, with the same preference as if she were a widow.

His Majesty and my Lords being informed that Collier,² the unruly seaman which was lately committed to the Marshalsea by their order, remains there in great want, and promising an amendment of his behaviour in case he be discharged; RESOLVED, that he should accordingly be so discharged.

A petition of Mr. Dowson, his Majesty's master-joiner of Deptford, being read, praying payment of some arrears, the stating and reporting thereof is referred to the Officers of the Navy.

DECEMBER 4, 1675

[*Present*: Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

The Lord Byron³ applying himself to my Lords for the procuring the payment to himself of the freight of a ship hired by his Majesty and yet unsatisfied for, alleging that though the said ship was hired of another man yet the whole propriety of the ship was his Lordship's, offering to indemnify his Majesty by bond against any that shall lay claim to the said freight; Their Lordships could not be satisfied that the same was either reasonable for the Lord Byron to expect from them or for them to grant to him, in regard of the precedent of it, but respited the declaring any resolution in it, as not being a full Board.

Mr. Pepys informing my Lords with what had lately passed between Captain Jenifer of the Saudades and the admiral of a Dutch squadron of merchant-ships in the Downs, forcing the said admiral by firing at him and

¹ See 30th October.

² See 20th November.

³ Richard Byron, second Baron Byron of Rochdale.

placing several shot in him to deliver up 4 Englishmen who had by letter applied themselves to him to that purpose ; the proceedings of the said Captain Jenifer were judged reasonable,¹ as being constant to his duty and instructions.

Mr. Pepys informed their Lordships also, by reading the letter wrote to him on that occasion, with the carpenter of the Oxford his being killed by a musket-shot from the guardship at Portsmouth, upon his, with others, passing by the said guardship at an unseasonable time of the night, and with provoking language refusing to give an account of themselves to the captain of the guardship, by whose order the said shot was made by Northall his mate, who instantly going on shore in order to the getting some help towards saving the life of the said carpenter, was seized upon and remains committed by the Mayor of Portsmouth, for the taking of him out of whose hands a *habeas corpus* will be speedily directed from the Judge of the Admiralty in order to his being tried by the laws thereof.²

William Bedford, late steward under Captain Pyend in the Ruby, and now prisoner in the Gatehouse³ at the suit of the said captain, having by petition obtained from my Lords leave to be brought to their Lordships to make known the ground of his imprisonment there, which upon opening appeared to have principally been the said captain's severity to him by way of revenge (as their Lordships found cause to doubt) for the said steward's appearing as a witness in the matters lately charged upon the said Captain Pyend by Mr. Jones (though upon examination not proved), their Lordships did not think fit expressly to command his being discharged by Captain Pyend, he being his prisoner upon a just (though very small) debt, and now seized on there by others upon several other scores, but nevertheless declared to Captain Pyend their being dissatisfied with these his proceedings, and gave it him as their advice that by a speedy accommodation with Bedford they may receive no further trouble in this matter.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2649.

² See *ib.*, Nos. 2650, 2651, 2659, 2660, 2666.

³ *Ib.* Nos. 2655, 2656.

The said Bedford complaining also that he is on the same grounds sued and molested by Brome, his purser, and praying that he may have leave to sue the said Brome for a debt owing to him by him, the same was granted.

Some persons attending in the name of the Company of Carpenters, praying some settlement of the payments of the sum agreed on between his Majesty and them for the parcel of ground adjoining to his Majesty's in Seething Lane which is taken in for his Majesty's service and belongs to the said Company; *RESOLVED*, that my Lord Treasurer should be speedily spoken to concerning it.

Mr. Pepys moving that it might be considered what may be done for preventing the abuses which he fears may be imposed upon his Majesty by the great number of denizations¹ granted to strangers upon which passes are demanded, on proposing that in case nothing further can be done in prevention thereto, before the granting the said letters of denization the said strangers may be obliged, at the time of their soliciting for passes, to bring certificates from persons of known credit (if in London) and the magistrate of the place (if from out-ports) of the[ir] present inhabitancy in his Majesty's dominions and the quality of it, with or without families, and for how long past they have been so resident here; which their Lordships was pleased to approve of so far as to have it propounded at the next full Board, in the mean time proceeding to the administering the oath to several English masters and refusing it to strangers, though shewing their letters of denizations, until they shall bring such certificates.

DECEMBER II, 1675

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Memorandum. That his Majesty had been pleased to promise his presence this day, in order to the debating

¹ See 18th September.

and determining the measure of the declaration to be made for the next year's sea service but was by other occasions prevented, and the matter thereupon directed to be offered to his Majesty to-morrow.

The business of the ship *Rooth*¹ being again transmitted from the Council Board to my Lords of the Admiralty, and the same consideration had of its being wholly foreign to their Lordships, and remaining still within the inspection of his Royal Highness as Admiral in all places out of this kingdom, Mr. Pepys was directed to attend his Royal Highness for the letting him understand what had passed herein, directing also the parties concerned to address themselves to the Council Board once more for the alteration of the reference for what it is now to his Royal Highness.

Their Lordships being informed of a master of a merchantman refusing to do the usual respect due to his Majesty's flag, in passing by the *Bezan* yacht without striking; **RESOLVED**, that the said master be summoned to answer his said contempt to their Lordships at the next meeting.

Colonel Phillipps² bringing a certificate of his being a Protestant, in order to the removing, as he thought, the only objection made to his late petition for his having his pension placed upon the navy, which appears for some time past to have been allowed him by his Majesty through the hands of [Sir] Stephen Fox,³ in consideration of some ancient services and quitting his employments abroad in compliance with his Majesty's proclamation; **RESOLVED**, that nothing appears to their Lordships from the nature of any of the said Colonel Phillipps's pretences which should countenance his petition of having his Majesty's bounty to him placed on the navy, and that therefore he is not to expect any furtherance from their Lordships therein.

Orders from the Council Board being wanting to authorise the same, their Lordships refuse several petitions for passes for ships beyond the seas. Mr. Pepys acquaints their Lordships with the *Maryrose* and

¹ See 27th November.

² See 2nd October.

³ Paymaster-general (*D. N. B.*, xx. 134).

Success's being come home from the Straits to be laid up,¹ and information he hath already received touching the bringing home of merchants' goods.

Cleggett, the purser of the Royal James, petitioning to be restored to the execution of his said employment, from which he was some time since suspended upon proof and confession of his making some alterations to the King's prejudice in the book of the York, whereof he was heretofore purser, after the said book was signed by the officers and delivered in to the pay, and their Lordships being informed by Mr. Speaker and the Officers of the Navy attending that several clerks of theirs who had been privy to this practice of Cleggett's had been discharged from their employments, and remain so at this day; RESOLVED, that their Lordships will not remove his said suspension, but referred it to Mr. Pepys to consider how far the said Cleggett is liable to any further prosecution for his said fault.

Penduce, gunner of the St. Michael, complaining that, contrary to an Order of the Council Board many years since declaring the privilege of the officers of his Majesty's ships to be exempted from watch and ward and all other offices and duties requiring personal attendance, he is molested and sued by the parish wherein he lives for his refusing to perform the said duties; RESOLVED, that the petitioner be directed to address himself to his Majesty in Council, before whom the maintenance of the said Order properly lies.

It being upon consideration found that the *habeas corpus* designed to be taken out of the Admiralty Court for the removing Northall out of the hands of the Mayor of Portsmouth² can serve only to the bringing the said Northall to a trial by a Commission of Oyer and Terminer in the Admiralty to be specially held for that business, which would be more dilatory,³ chargeable, and of more trouble than the nature of his crime (which was committed in the execution of his duty) would require, while on all those considerations it is thought more advisable as well as more proper that he should be tried by a

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2671.

² See 4th December.

³ MS., 'dilatorily.'

court-martial ; It was RESOLVED a warrant should go from their Lordships to the Mayor of Portsmouth for his delivering the said Northall to the Marshal¹ of the Admiralty, and another order to the said Marshal¹ to demand and receive the prisoner from him accordingly.

The Lord Byron attending again on the same matter whereon he discoursed with my Lords [the] 4th² instant, his request was, on the same considerations which were then had, again denied him.

RESOLVED, that the Richmond yacht's arrears of pay be paid and she re-fitted.

Their Lordships being this day attended by the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights, praying final directions in the business of Captain Idle, in relation to that only particular wherein that matter seems to remain unfinished, namely, their Lordships declaring how far they will allow of Sir John Fowell's³ account in that article thereof wherein he demands £100 in consideration of his pains and care, over and above his expenses which he brings a particular demand for and are ready to be allowed him ; Their Lordships, considering that what the said Sir John Fowell did therein was but in prosecution of his duty, which he is by other ways supposed satisfied for, as also of how little advantage (however it ariseth) that this business can prove to Captain Idle, and that his Majesty in pursuance of his promise of being bountiful to him in reward for his extraordinary undertaking in bringing away his ship from Cadiz had ordered the full proceed of the said ship and loading (after all charges on his Majesty's part defrayed) to Captain Idle and his company, whom he brings proof of his having satisfied for all their pretences, so as what shall be given to Sir John Fowell by way of reward above his disbursements is given him not from his Majesty but taken from Captain Idle, RESOLVED, That no allowance be granted to the said Sir John Fowell by way of reward, but that he being satisfied to the full of his charges and expenses, the remainder be

¹ MS., 'Martiall.'

² MS., '14th.'

³ Vice-admiral of Devon ; see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. 189 n. He had succeeded to the baronetcy in 1674.

entirely made good to Captain Idle according to the last order of their Lordships to the said Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights bearing date 24th June 1675.

Mr. Pepys taking notice to their Lordships of his Majesty having appointed Sir Leo. Jenkins to his service abroad as ambassador,¹ and that therefore their Lordships would be pleased to consider what provision is made for the execution of his place as Judge of the Admiralty in his absence, their Lordships were pleased to command Mr. Pepys to confer with Sir Leo. Jenkins about it, and report his answer to their Lordships the next meeting.

An Order from the Council Board being read, referring to their Lordships' consideration the petition of Francis Terence of London, merchant, touching the Elizabeth of London lately carried into Calais by a privateer; RESOLVED, that the same be referred to the examination of the Judge of the Admiralty.

Upon the humble request of Captain Hurst,² whose vessel was lately seized on by warrant of my Lords and kept by consent of the said captain as security for his appearance when called to answer for his having accepted of a commission as a privateer from the King of France against the Dutch, contrary to the letter of his Majesty's Treaty, and their Lordships considering as well that the said Hurst had not yet done anything in execution of the said commission as that his being discovered to have this commission arose from himself, at his coming in to assist his Majesty's ship the Pearl then at sea in distress; RESOLVED, that the said Captain Hurst's offence before-mentioned be represented to his Majesty, for the reasons aforesaid and in consideration of the trouble and charge he hath already suffered in this matter, as fit to be remitted, and that the arrest upon his ship be taken off.

¹ Sir Leoline Jenkins left England 20th Dec., 1675, to attend the congress of Nimeguen (*D. N. B.*, xxix. 303).

² See 30th October.

DECEMBER 12, 1675

[*Present*: King and Duke of York; Prince Rupert; Lord Keeper; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

The business of the victualling declaration being debated, with regard as well to the ordinary standing services of the summer and winter guards heretofore provided for in the project of £200,000 a year,¹ as the extraordinary occasion now upon his Majesty's hands of maintaining a fleet against the Tripoleens now in the Straits, a project for the said present declaration was concluded upon in manner following, and resolved to be presented to the Council Board for its confirmation there the next Council day.

Memorandum. That in the debates on this affair the charge of the galley at Tangier came into particular consideration, and the same being found very extraordinary, and that to arise (among other things) from her being reputed as a ship of the 2nd rate in the casting of her officers' wages; It was RESOLVED, that for the time to come she should in all respects be esteemed but as a 3rd-rate² in the said castings of wages, and that in the present project, though her number of men be indeed about 460, forasmuch as a great part thereof are slaves who receive no wages, and the wear and tear of a galley not equal in proportion to a frigate, as going abroad only in summer and fair weather, she should be estimated but as a 4th-rate ship of 200 men, bringing her whole charge the year round at the common medium of £4 a man a month to £10,400.

His Majesty was also pleased, upon the late advice³ of the Officers of the Navy, to declare his pleasure that care should be taken for the speedy sheathing of the galley with lead for preserving her against the worm.

Mr. Pepys observing to his Majesty and my Lords

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 104.

² In Pepys's *Register of Ships* the galleys are entered as 4th-rates. The crew of the Margaret galley, built at Pisa in 1671, is given as 460 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 272).

³ See 20th November.

A Project of the Summer and Winter Guard for the year commencing the 1st of January, 1675[-6]:

Services	Ships		Men	Time			Money
	No.	Rate		Mo.	Wks.	Dys.	£
Downs and Narrow Seas	I	4	120	13	0	0	6,240
	I	5	75	13	0	0	3,900
	I	5	75	13	0	0	3,900
	yachts } 13	6	210	13	0	0	10,920
Guard at Ports- mouth	I	6	12	13	0	0	624
	Sheerness	I	6	45	13	0	0
Saudades for the Queen's service ¹	I	6	50	13	0	0	2,600
	I	5	85	13	0	0	4,420
Ireland	I	6	20	13	0	0	1,040
	yacht }	4	140	13	0	0	7,280
Tangier, Sallee, and Straits	I	5	140	13	0	0	7,280
	I	6	70	13	0	0	3,640
	I	6	25	13	0	0	1,300
	galley	2	200	13	0	0	10,400
	I	4	140	9	0	0	5,040
Newfoundland	I	5	100	9	0	0	3,660
	I	4	140	3	0	0	1,680
Herring Fishery	I	5	100	3	0	0	1,200
Jamaica	I	5	100	13	0	0	5,200
			1847 ²				82,664 ³

in 2 or 3 instances lately occurring to him of the practice of several foreigners demanding passes⁴ in right of their denization, without proving themselves residents in England; It was ORDERED, that for the future, denization

¹ The original Saudades had been built at Portsmouth in 1670 by Anthony Deane as a yacht of 86 tons for the Queen's use, who on 14th April of that year 'gave it a Portuguese name and fired a gun' (*Cal. S. P. Dom., Add. 1660-70*, p. 163). The vessel as rebuilt by Jonas Shish in 1673 was of 180 tons (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 278).

² MS. '1487.'

³ MS. '82604.'

⁴ On passes see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xviii.

Ships now abroad and likely so to continue beyond the 1st January next, above the number designed for the Summer and Winter Guard for the year 1676:

Ships	Men	Time			Money	
		Mo.	Wks.	Dys.		
Harwich	350	13	0	0	£ 18,200	In the Straits with Sir John Nar- brough
Swallow	200	13	0	0	10,400	
Assistance	180	13	0	0	9,360	
Yarmouth	190	13	0	0	9,880	
Diamond	170	13	0	0	9,100	
Dragon	160	13	0	0	8,320	
Portsmouth	160	13	0	0	8,320	
Dartmouth	130	13	0	0	6,760	
Fire Ships { Ann & Chris- topher	40	13	0	0	2,080	
{ Holmes	35	13	0	0	1,820	
Bristol	190	13	0	0	9,880	At Jamaica to be ordered home. Coming home from Tangier. Coming home from Tripoli.
Swan	115	13	0	0	5,980	
Europa hulk	30	13	0	0	1,560	
Foresight	140	6	0	0	3,360	
Drake	50	2	0	0	400	
Henrietta	300	1	0	0	1,200	
	2440 ¹				106,620	

should not be enough to entitle a foreigner to a pass unless, either by the personal testimony or written certificate of persons of known credit, their residence in England with their families (if they have any) be made fully to appear.

Occasion being also given of discoursing touching the liberty commonly reported to be taken by his Majesty's subjects in the Straits of employing and serving in foreign ships with English colours, to the threatening a rupture between the Algereens and us if the same should [not] be remedied; His Majesty was

¹ MS. '2445.'

pleased to direct Mr. Pepys that notice be taken thereof by a letter to Sir John Narbrough,¹ in order to his doing what may be done by the King's ships there for removing this evil; And it was further committed to the Lord Keeper to consider what more may be done to the same purpose by a proclamation to be issued here.

RESOLVED also, that Sir John Narbrough be put in mind of keeping his fleet to short allowance for saving the expense of victuals, so hard and uncertain to be provided there.

DECEMBER 18, 1675

[*Present*: Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

The business of Captain Idle being by his fresh applications brought this day into fresh debate before their Lordships, upon pretence that the account of charges upon his ship Bachelor brought in by the Commissioners of the Admiralty Rights contained many particulars to his prejudice unfit to be allowed; He was directed to put his objections to the said account in writing and present them to their Lordships, upon which and the said Commissioners' reply thereto their Lordships will direct what should be just on Captain Idle's behalf to be done.

An Order being read from the Council Table referring to them the petition of Mr. Therry,² merchant, touching a ship's having of a pass upon proof of her English propriety, their Lordships were pleased to accept the testimony then personally given them by Mr. Therry, and RESOLVED to report that a pass might be allowed to the said ship.

A petition being presented to the Board by the Earl of Ossory, in the name of the commanders of 1st and 2nd-rate ships to whom an allowance of half-pay is allowed by his Majesty during peace, praying order for the speedy payment of the arrears of the said allowance; It was declared by their Lordships, that they would recommend the said petition to my Lord Treasurer at his next being with them.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2671.

² Mr. James Thierry was a London merchant.

Mr. Pepys report[s] to their Lordships that in pursuance of their late directions¹ by which they were pleased to refer to his particular examination the matter of the complaint lately brought by some servants of his Royal Highness against Captain Shales,² purser of the Prince, for his not having made good to them the value of their own provisions which, as being otherwise fed from the Duke's table, they had no occasion of eating, and therefore had it not from the steward on ship-board as the rest of the company had ; he had discoursed with both parties, and received this final answer from Captain Shales, That he had already made satisfaction to so many of his Highness's servants as had brought him a certificate from his steward that they had not received their provisions in specie³ on board, and that he was ready to do the like to everyone that remains unsatisfied upon their producing such a certificate—without which he had held himself as liable to the like demand from every one of the ship's company (though they were actually victualled) as from them ; Which answer their Lordships did judge satisfactory.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1675

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker.]

His Majesty having been pleased to debate the last night with the Lords of the Committee for Foreign Affairs the business of passes, and the frauds practised or suspected to be practised therein, and concluded upon several heads of regulations to be made therein, with notice given thereof by a note from Mr. Secretary Williamson to Mr. Pepys with directions for a meeting of the Lords of the Admiralty to be called here this morning ; His Majesty was accordingly attended by their Lordships, and therein upon the same matter being afresh debated, it was RESOLVED, that all passes for the

¹ See 20th November.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2642 ; Captain Shales was now clerk to the Lord Treasurer.

³ *I.e.* in kind.

future should be limited to a year from the date ; That the year and date be hereafter expressed in words and not in figures ; That all passes of a year old at New Year's Day now approaching should become void by the first of May next ; That all future passes to the Straits relating to the treaties with the Turks should run in the printed form used in the time of his Royal Highness, and no other ; and, lastly, That new passes should be granted and sent to such ships in the Straits whose passes by this limitation of time should become void. The putting of which into terms fit for a proclamation was committed to Mr. Pepys to see forthwith done with the advice of Mr. Attorney-General, prefacing it with a general mention of the inconveniencies arising from the want of such a regulation, in reference to the weal of our trade, the safety of the King's subjects, and satisfaction of his allies.

This being over, another matter was mentioned in order to a proclamation, viz., his Majesty's subjects taking a liberty from the present juncture of affairs to colour foreign ships in the Straits, and to serve in ships in hostility with the Turks our allies, to the administering just matter of offence to them when they shall think it reasonable to take it. The forbidding of which by proclamation being agreed to be at this time of great importance towards the support of the peace we have at this day, in particular with the Algerin's, It was committed to Mr. Secretary Williamson to see a proclamation accordingly prepared on that behalf against the next Council day.

His Majesty being moved in what was mentioned the last meeting touching the present payment of the arrears of what is due to the commanders of the 1st and 2nd-rate ships upon their allowance of half-pay, It was AGREED (my Lord Treasurer being present), that forasmuch as they desire no other favour than that their payment may go hand in hand with that of the pensions of the flag-officers, no more money should be applied to the payment of the flag-officers till the said commanders were satisfied their arrears as far as the flag-officers stand at this day paid, and that from thenceforward their payments should be carried on equally.

Mr. Pepys acquainting his Majesty and my Lords how far the business of settling his Majesty's intended bounty to his new Royal Foundation in Christ's Hospital¹ was advanced, and how the same then stood, his Majesty was pleased to recommend to the Lords the care of that Foundation in general, and with particular relation to the rendering this his bounty effectual to the ends designed thereby.

A petition being read from the officers of the ordinary at Chatham, complaining of the hard duty which they are now put to, being obliged all of them to lie on board every night and watch,² Which the Officers of the Navy by their report of the 16th instant do acknowledge to be more than can be well expected from some of them who by their daily labour on shore cannot subsist under continual watching by night on board, and yet by the letter of the late establishment in Council for the raising the wages of the officers in ordinary to that of sea pay hold themselves obliged to exact this duty from them ; And it being upon debate judged that with the help of the ordinary ship-keepers, well chosen and kept to duty, two of the standing officers might be sufficient, for the safety of the ship, to be kept in attendance on board every night, It was RESOLVED, that two accordingly should be the number of officers bound indispensably to watch on board every night, and that orders should be accordingly sent to the Officers of the Navy for the authorising them to accept of the attendance of two officers in each night in satisfaction for the whole number, with necessary cautions for their being well kept to the performance of their duty.

Mr. Speaker then taking occasion to open by discourse to his Majesty and my Lords very many irregularities under which the business of the slopseller of the navy is found to have been managed,³ to the prejudice both of his Majesty and the poor seamen, in the slopseller's issuing slops of other sorts and quality, and by other proportions, at higher rates, and in other manner than by the established instructions they ought to be, which instructions require their being sold upon deck at the

¹ See 27th November.

² See 20th November.

³ See 21st August.

mainmast, in the presence of and to be rated by the commander and officers of the ship ; And observing also that the pretended issues of slops brought to account on the ship's books on behalf of the slopseller do generally very much exceed the value of what [by] his invoices appear to have been originally provided by the slopseller and by him committed to the purser ; And lastly, Mr. Speaker noting to his Majesty the very great damage he suffers by having the wages forfeited by runaways set upon the heads of the said runaways under that of clothes, to the defrauding his Majesty of what ought to be saved to him thereon ; His Majesty was pleased, after some debate had upon this matter, to refer it to my Lords of the Admiralty to inquire into the reason of these disorders and breaches of instructions, to the end he might be informed on whom the same is truly chargeable, whether on the Officers of the Navy or commanders and officers of his ships. And for the better guidance of Mr. Speaker as Treasurer of the Navy for the future, with which particular reference to the present demands of Major Beckford for what is pretended to remain unsatisfied to him for slops by him issued to the King's ships, It was further RESOLVED by his Majesty, with the advice of my Lords, that no payments be hereafter made by Mr. Speaker upon any account of slops whatsoever, where the said slops shall not have been duly issued according to the printed instructions and rules of the navy established on that behalf.

JANUARY 2, 1675-6

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Chancellor¹ ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty and my Lords about the Committee for Foreign Affairs, was commanded to prepare necessary orders for the Guarland to take in

¹ Lord Finch of Daventry, afterwards Earl of Nottingham, has been hitherto described in the *Journal* as ' Lord Keeper,' but he had been promoted to the office of Lord Chancellor 19th December, 1675. The date is wrongly given in *D. N. B.*, xix. 10 as 1674.

as many soldiers now going with Captain Trelawny¹ to Tangier as she can conveniently carry, and transport them thither, and that done return for England, stopping at Cadiz not exceeding eight days. RESOLVED also, that the remainder of the recruits be sent by merchant-vessels to be agreed with by the Officers of the Navy.

JANUARY 15, 1675-6

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Craven ; Lord Ossory ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry].

Application being this day made by petition to his Majesty in behalf of several of his subjects taken by those of Sallee and there made slaves, praying that his Majesty would be pleased to bestow the ship Rooth,² of Dartmouth, lately brought into Tangier from the coast of Sallee by Sir Richard Rooth, towards the redemption of so many of his Majesty's subjects as are remaining in slavery there, and for satisfying the ransoms of some who have been lately redeemed thence upon bond given by the parties to make good the same in England to the merchants by whom the said ransoms were on their behalf laid down ; his Majesty was graciously pleased to assent thereto for so much as should appear upon examination to be in his disposal of the said prize, those who are in present slavery being to be first redeemed therewith, and then the ransoms of the other paid upon full proof made of the sums paid for their redemptions.

My Lord Treasurer was pleased to take notice to his Majesty of the necessity of bringing again into practice the ancient method of the navy, by which no works upon which any part of his Majesty's treasure is to be issued are to be entered upon without an estimate of the charge thereof first prepared, and signed by the Officers of the Navy, then by the Lord High Admiral, and afterwards presented and approved of by his Majesty in Council, and a privy seal granted thereupon warranting the Lord Treasurer to issue money for the same.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2723.

² See 11th December ; and *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2726. MS. 'Ruth.'

The non-observance of which, and consequently the entering upon works without particular estimates and sums especially appointed thereto has (as his Lordship was pleased to shew) occasioned (among other ill effects) that the charge of the navy has never had any certain measures taken of it, to the leading his Majesty insensibly to a much greater expense, and contracting upon himself a much greater debt than probably would ever otherwise have been ; And therefore moved, that for the time to come the said ancient method of proceeding by estimate be taken up and strictly conformed to, upon every occasion of expense not already provided for by some privy seal. Which his Majesty was pleased, with the advice of my Lords, fully to agree to and direct both their Lordships and the Officers of the Navy to see duly observed.

A petition being read from the Lady Duteil, widow of Sir John Duteil, late commander of the Margaret galley at Tangier, praying that her husband's account signed by Captain Curlow,¹ the purser, etc., may be accepted and passed by the Officers of the Navy without exposing her to the inconveniences which must attend her from the delay which ² the sending them to Tangier to be sworn to (as the said Officers seem to insist upon) must necessarily occasion to the satisfaction she expects from his Majesty ; His Majesty was graciously pleased to grant the same, and that the Officers of the Navy be directed to accept of her said accounts accordingly.

JANUARY 22, 1675-6

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Craven ; Lord Ossory ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Captain Idle this day presenting to my Lords in writing his exceptions to the account of charges upon the Bachelor brought by the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights, and particularly that part thereof which relates to the expenses at Plymouth ; It was ORDERED to be

¹ Probably the 'Captain Carlo' referred to on p. 325 below.

² MS. 'with.'

transmitted to the said Commissioners, directing them to return the same to their Lordships, with their answer thereto in writing, against this day sennight.

Their Lordships enquiring of the Officers of the Navy the reason of their having not yet dispatched and presented to their Lordships the general state of his Majesty's naval stores¹; they gave answer that the Surveyor of the Navy's² having been for a long time sick had hindered them thus far, but that it would now be in a few days ready.

A report being read from the court-martial lately held for examining the articles mutually exhibited by Captain Stout,³ commander, and Lieutenant John Butcher, late lieutenant of his Majesty's ship the Success, newly returned from the Straits, wherein there appearing to the court (as the report says) no sufficient proof of the matters alleged on either side, they, the said Captain Robert Stout and Lieutenant John Butcher, were both acquitted from the same; Their Lordships were pleased to take into consideration that, though they thus stood acquitted by sentence of the court, yet the crimes whereof they accused one another were of such a degree as called for their Lordships' particular inspection, in order at least to the preservation of a better discipline in his Majesty's ships than can be supposed to be where captains and lieutenants can causelessly take upon them the arraigning one another in points so criminal, And therefore RESOLVED, to have a sight of the evidences brought to the court on each side, and accordingly directed that the president and judge of the said court should be required to present the same forthwith to their Lordships.

Another report from the same court was read, touching William Northall,⁴ mate of the Wivenhoe guardship at Portsmouth, who being found to have killed the carpenter of the Oxford in the execution of his duty (the said carpenter, and company in the boat wherein he was, refusing to answer the watch in their passing by the guardship at an unseasonable time of night) he was

¹ See 28th August.

² Sir John Tippetts.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2699, 2832.

⁴ See 11th December.

acquitted for the same; Their Lordships judged the proceedings of the court-martial therein agreeable to the law and what the preservation of discipline in the navy required.

A letter (among others) being read from Captain Harris, commander of the Quaker ketch, from St. Martin's Road, giving an account of several insolent words and behaviour given to his Majesty's flag by a Scotchman, master of a vessel of that kingdom then there¹; ORDERED, That his Majesty should be acquainted therewith, and the doing thereof undertaken by Mr. Secretary Williamson.

An account being at the same time read from some of the said Quaker ketch's company by way of article against the said Captain Joseph Harris, shewing that in derogation to the honour of his Majesty's flag he had submitted and directed his topsail to be struck to a Spanish man-of-war (supposed an Ostender) which met him in the Bay of Biscay²; and there being also a letter read from the Mayor of Falmouth, where the said ketch is now put in, in her return from Rochelle (whither she was sent by the Governor of Tangier only upon the score of merchandise) in favour of the captain, upon the said Mayor's examination of the matter there by direction from their Lordships; Mr. Pepys was directed to move his Majesty from their Lordships that the ketch, being now at Falmouth bound for Tangier upon no service of his Majesty's but only with wines and other merchants' goods belonging to my Lord Inchiquin,³ should be directed to come about in the river of Thames,¹ in order to the bringing the said Captain Harris to a regular trial before a court-martial for the crime whereof he stands charged.

An Order of the Council Board being read, referring to the Lords the request of Mr. Alderman Townley for a pass to bring a ship of his directly from Rouen⁴ to London; the same was, upon his giving bond for her so coming from thence hither and then delivering up the said pass, granted.

A late letter from Sir John Narbrough being read,

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2735.

² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xxxviii.

³ Governor of Tangier.

⁴ MS. 'Roan.'

wherein his want of provisions for his fleet at Malta is largely insisted upon,¹ and Sir Thomas Clutterbuck (now attending) interrogated by my Lords touching the grounds thereof, and his failure of contract expressed in the same, he answered for his defence by imputing the said wants not to his neglect or insufficiency to provide the same but to the obstructions he meets with from the princes of the several ports where he has endeavoured to make his provision, praying in remedy thereof his Majesty's letters recommendatory to the said princes for their favour to his negotiations in their ports in what concerns his Majesty's immediate service. Which answer of Sir T. C.'s or any other, in a matter of so much importance as the weal of his Majesty's fleet and success of the service thereof in the Straits, their Lordships thinking unfit to be admitted otherwise than in writing, they were pleased to direct Sir T. C. to put the same in writing accordingly, Recommending it also to the Officers of the Navy to inform themselves truly in the ground of the said want of provisions and stores complained of by Sir John Narbrough, and to report the same to their Lordships.

A report being read from the Officers of the Navy touching Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's late report of permission to his victualling-vessels in the Straits, while employed in his Majesty's service only, to wear the King's jack,² several intricacies seem still to remain, to the rendering such permission unfit to be granted, from the ill uses which might be made of the same to the above trade, and disturbing of our peace with the Algeriens; It was RESOLVED, upon debate with the Officers of the Navy (Sir Thomas Clutterbuck present) that the most effectual and convenient method of compassing the thing desired, of having his Majesty's victualling-vessels employed by Sir Thomas Clutterbuck fairly treated and furthered by the subjects of the princes with whom the said Sir T. C. shall have to do, will be by letters recommendatory from his Majesty to the said several princes, and that the same be reported to his Majesty from their Lordships as their humble advice in this matter.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2737, 2741.

² See 27th November.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck taking occasion at this his attendance on their Lordships to complain of his ill payments from the Office of the Ordnance for what stores he delivers to his Majesty's ships relating to that Office, and Mr. Pepys thereupon informing the Lords in what he had understood by late discourse with the Master of the Ordnance¹ of the excessive supplies of stores issued by Sir T. C., with some instances of the like in relation to the provisions and stores falling within the cognisance of the Officers of the Navy; their Lordships were pleased to direct him to take notice thereof to Sir John Narbrough, in order to his keeping a strict hand upon commanders in their taking a good account of the state and expense of the stores and provisions,² Recommending it to the Officers of the Navy to do the like, and directing Sir Thomas Clutterbuck to look well to the warrants upon which he takes upon him to issue any stores or provisions to the King's ships, and in reference to his present complaint to present their Lordships in writing with a particular of his wants, which when received they were pleased to promise him their tendering the same to his Majesty on his behalf.

A note taken upon some discourse this morning in general touching passes, that provisions be made in the rules which shall be established touching that matter, for each ship's being bound to deliver up her pass at the end of the voyage.

Upon fresh application made by Sir John Knight in the old matter in difference between the City of Bristol and Sir Thomas Bridges, wherein the said City pretend to a power granted them from the Crown of holding courts in certain Admiralty causes³; ORDERED, that the City of Bristol be sent to, to make good their title to that jurisdiction.

Several letters read and masters of merchant-ships sworn.⁴

¹ Sir Thomas Chicheley; *D. N. B.*, x. 231.

² Pepys had already done this by a letter of 13th December, 1675 (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 2671).

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2745. Sir John Knight was a notable merchant of Bristol; *D. N. B.*, xxxi. 255.

⁴ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xix. note 5.

A petition of Captain Pinn being read, praying help from their Lordships for his being reimbursed the sum of £40 pretended to have been by him laid out in behalf of himself and his ship's company, at their request, for the redeeming of an Englishman out of an Argier man-of-war in his late voyage in the Dartmouth, The value of which sum he having by consent of his company placed by equal proportions upon each merchant's¹ head in the column of clothes, he cannot without their Lordships extraordinary assistance now come by, in regard of the present disputes and stops to payments between his Majesty and the slopseller²; Their Lordships thought it fit that proof be brought of matter of fact before they come to any resolution touching the granting the petitioner's request, and therefore ORDERED that Captain Pinn should be directed to exhibit to their Lordships his proofs accordingly.

JANUARY 26, 1675[-6]

Council Table

Sir George Downing³ having for several days past been very importunate with my Lord Treasurer for a re-view of the late proclamation about granting of passes,⁴ in order to another proclamation to be issued explanatory thereof, Mr. Pepys was summoned to attend his Majesty in Council, and there this day received directions to attend, together with Sir George Downing, the next day upon the Lords the Commissioners for Trade, in order to the considering of some further general regulations in the business of passes, and in particular the considering what may be fit to be done by way of amendment of the late proclamation proposed by Sir George Downing.

¹ 'Merchant' is perhaps used here in the old sense of a buyer or customer.

² See 20th December.

³ On the career of Sir George Downing see *D. N. B.*, xv. 399. He was concerned with passes as a commissioner of the customs.

⁴ See 20th December; and *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2731.

JANUARY 27, 1675-6

Council Chamber

The Lord Privy Seal,¹ the Lord Bridgewater,² the Lord Craven,³ and Mr. Secretary Williamson being met this morning as a Committee of Trade, Sir George Downing and Mr. Pepys attending, the morning was taken up in discourse with Mr. James Houblon⁴ and about a dozen merchants of quality more, who came thither with proposals to offer touching the remedying of the many abuses his Majesty (as they alleged) suffered, together with themselves as merchants, from the want of regulation in several points by them generally urged in discourse relating to passes, making of foreign ships free, making of denizens, and allowing equal privileges to a foreign ship in several particulars with what is enjoyed by ships English-built, to the violating the Act of Navigation and overthrowing of trade. In most of which their opinions happening to be directly opposed by Sir George Downing, and the late rules established in Council being read to them, (which they seemed never to have before been acquainted with, and were upon this their first reading received by them as greatly satisfactory and without any objection at present to be made to them) a copy of the said rules were put into their hands, with directions given them by their Lordships to consider at their leisure of the said rules, and present their Lordships in writing with anything they shall have to offer by way of objection to or improvement of the said rules, and what else they shall then have to propose upon any of the heads they first began their discourse with; so the Committee adjourned till the afternoon.

In the afternoon the same Lords, together with the Lord Treasurer, the Lord Duke of Ormonde, and Mr. Secretary Coventry, met again accordingly, attended by Sir George Downing and Mr. Pepys, where, after long debates upon several general points relating to passes,

¹ The Earl of Anglesey.

² John Egerton, second Earl of Bridgewater; see *D. N. B.*, xvii. 156.

³ On William, Earl of Craven, see *D. N. B.*, xiii. 43.

⁴ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xvi, note 7.

and too much perplexity discovered on each to admit of any hasty determinations, their Lordships came to no other resolution than the referring the said debates to a further day, saving in the case of the late proclamation, which, for the sake of our peace with Argier, they judged to require a speedy explanation by limiting every point therein to passes granted in pursuance of the treaties with Algier, Tunis, and Tripoli ; The adjustment whereof in the form of an explanatory proclamation was committed to Sir George Downing and Mr. Pepys, together with Sir Ph[ilip] Lloyd (the Clerk of the Council attending), to be prepared against to-morrow's Council, with the advice of Mr. Attorney-General taken therein.

JANUARY 28, 1675-6

Council Table

Sir George Downing, Sir Ph[ilip] Lloyd, and Mr. Pepys meeting this morning (according to yesterday's order) at Mr. Attorney-General's chamber, a proclamation explanatory of that of the 22nd December last was drawn up, with all care taken in its wording, to the satisfaction of Sir George Downing and every person present, and brought to the Council Table in the afternoon by Mr. Attorney-General, where it was read and passed, and order declared, That the Lords of the Council go on to further considerations upon the other parts of the difficulties under debate touching passes with all speed.

JANUARY 29, 1675-6

[*Present* : Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Their Lordships being attended by the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights with an account in writing by way of reply to Idle's exceptions to their accounts of charges upon the Bachelor ; It was ORDERED, That the same should be communicated to Mr. Idle in order to his having opportunity of making his reflections thereupon,

and proceeding further in his solicitations before their Lordships as he shall see cause.

Sir John Knight attending again about the Vice-Admiralty of Bristol,¹ his letters heretofore on behalf of that City were read, But nothing undertaken by my Lords to be determined in it until they had heard from the City of Bristol itself how far and by what right they pretend to any Admiral jurisdiction.

The debate concerning passes referred to Wednesday morning next (being Candlemas Day) at the Robes Chamber before church.

An estimate of the charge of putting the galley at Tangier into a condition of service being presented to my Lords by the Officers of the Navy, the greatness thereof and of the constant expense of the galley, together with the service to be expected from her, were taken into general consideration, and therein particular discourse had of her present commander, Captain Hamilton, without anything said on behalf of his qualifications for that employment, but, on the contrary, notice was taken by the Officers of the Navy of his lavishness in taking in stores and provisions, and expense of money upon work unnecessarily done upon his ship the *Maryrose* at his late being at Livorne, only to bring her home to England ; The Lords were pleased to recommend to the Officers of the Navy the well examining the accounts of the said ship and calling Captain Hamilton to a reckoning for the same at his return home, and in the mean time themselves were pleased to refer the further debate of the charge of the galley to another day, by his Majesty's being present.

Mr. Pepys taking notice to the Lords that many of the Vice-Admirals of counties had yet omitted to renew their commissions, to the rendering questionable all that is done by the officers of the Vice-Admiralty and to the prejudice of the Admiral jurisdiction, for the preservation of which and not out of any regard to his fees (which, if their Lordships should think needful, he was ready to forego) he held it his duty, as he has heretofore, to move their Lordships that some course might be taken for remedy thereof ; Their Lordships were of opinion that something accordingly should be done for the preserva-

¹ See 22nd January.

tion of the Admiral's jurisdiction and preventing the failure of justice in matter relating thereto, but that the persons to whom the trust of the Vice-Admiralties were last committed being for the most part of great quality, letters should be again directed to them, desiring their resolutions touching their renewing their commissions or not, before his Majesty should be moved for the appointing of any other. Which was accordingly ORDERED.

The Lord Treasurer being moved by the Board touching the provision of money to be made for the present year's service, his Lordship was pleased to say that he would speedily bring the same to a settlement, both for the ordinary expense of the year and the extraordinary.

Several letters read, masters of merchantmen sworn, and the Officers of the Navy put in mind of considering the state of Sir John Narbrough's provisions and stores.

FEBRUARY 2, 1675-6

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present* : Prince Rupert ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.]

Their Lordships, according to order,¹ met this morning at the Robes before chapel² with purpose of debating the business of passes, but the Lord Treasurer being prevented in his being there, they adjourned the same to such a day as my Lord Treasurer should, upon application to that purpose by Mr. Pepys, assign for the same, when his Lordship may be present.

FEBRUARY 6, 1675-6

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Craven ; Lord Ossory ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain. Navy Officers attending.]

The estimate of the charge of fitting the galley to sea being read, and the same, as well as the great expense of maintaining her there, considered, and another estimate at the same time being presented to my Lords by the

¹ See 29th January.

² February 2nd is the Feast of the Purification (Candlemas Day).

Officers of the Navy of the charge of building a vessel of the design lately proposed by his Majesty for the answering the service both of a frigate and a galley,¹ as the occasion shall require it ; By which estimate it appeared that such a vessel of 120 foot long and 27 foot broad² might be built with the same expense and the help of the proceed of the slaves as the galley could be set to sea at, which vessel would answer all the purposes of a galley and yet be capable of doing the service of a frigate in all seas and weather, besides being maintained at much less charge ; his Majesty was pleased, with the ready concurrence of the Lords, to determine upon the present discharging of the galley and falling in hand with the building of such a galley-frigate by contract, and orders to be given to the Officers of the Navy authorising them for putting the same in execution.

Their Lordships were advertised by Mr. Pepys that the court-martial appointed for trying Captain Harris,³ commander of the Quaker ketch, had determined to sit on Monday morning next.

His Majesty being acquainted with what the said Captain Harris had by letter informed their Lordships³ touching the insolvency of the Scotchman at St. Martin's Road, and that he had taken bonds for the said Scotchman's appearance to answer for his said misbehaviour when called thereto ; ORDERED, that a copy of the said information and bonds be delivered to the Lord Duke of Lauderdale,⁴ in order to his taking care for the calling the said Scotchman to an account when he shall return to Leith, the place of his habitation.

RESOLVED, that the Kingfisher,⁵ now building by contract at Woodbridge by Mr. Phineas Pett of Chatham, be sheathed, viz., so much thereof to be done at Woodbridge before she comes off of the stocks as shall be needful, and the remainder after she shall come into the River.

¹ On the galley-frigates see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xlvii.

² The dimensions ultimately decided upon were 114 ft. × 28 ft. 6 in. for the Charles galley, and 104 ft. × 28 ft. 1 in. for the James galley (*ib.* i. 270, 272).

³ See 22nd January.

⁴ The Duke of Lauderdale was secretary for Scottish affairs.

⁵ A 4th-rate ; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2763.

Sir Anthony Deane's £500¹ 'in full satisfaction for the Charles yacht' to be paid by imprest.

His Majesty was pleased to declare the Reserve and Speedwell to be the two ships to be fitted forth as this year's convoys to Newfoundland.²

Captain Idle's answer³ to be read 'this day sennight.'

The report from the Officers of the Navy being read, touching the reward which they hold reasonable to be given to the Commissioners employed during the late war for the dispensing his Majesty's bounty to the widows and orphans of seamen slain in his Majesty's service⁴ with regard to their great pains and care expressed therein, as well to the content of the parties relieved as the saving of his Majesty's treasure; his Majesty, with the advice of my Lords, was pleased to agree to the sum proposed by the Officers of the Navy, ordering the same to be paid accordingly, viz., to Dr. Mill as chairman £100, and to each of the other six gentlemen £50 apiece.

A paper being delivered in by Captain Gunman,⁵ president of the late court-martial, and Mr. Brisbane, Judge-Advocate, containing the sum of what was mutually brought in charge against one another by Captain Stout, commander, and John Butcher, lieutenant, of the ship Success,⁶ with their respective replies to each article, and the same being read, it abundantly appeared by their own confessions they were not so guiltless in the points wherein they stood accused as that the court-martial should acquit them in the terms they do, viz., *For want of proofs*. Nevertheless, forasmuch as that they have abided the trial before a court-martial and by sentence thereof stand discharged, His Majesty was graciously pleased to direct that they should so far be looked upon as innocent as not to have their pay stopped from them, but that nevertheless they should stand so far under the imputation of being guilty as to have a mark set upon them for breakers of their instructions and

¹ See 27th November.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2763, 2802.

³ See 29th January.

⁴ See 25th September.

⁵ Commander of the Anne yacht on which the court-martial was held.

⁶ See 22nd January.

violators of the discipline of the navy, to be brought to his Majesty's memory by the Secretary of the Admiralty whenever they shall hereafter pretend to any new employment, and that regard be also had and enquiry be made into the evidences upon which the future sentences of a court-martial for the condemning or acquitting of any person shall be grounded, and that to that purpose it be made a standing rule, That together with the copy of every such sentence presented to the Lord Admiral under the hands of the president and judge-advocate there be also presented a summary account of the evidence, in order to guiding his Majesty and the Lord Admiral, though not to the reversing or questioning the said sentence yet to the better judging of the truth of the behaviour of the party so sentenced, in reference to any future employment or trust.¹

Memorandum. That particular notice was taken by his Majesty and my Lords of the method of Lieutenant Butcher's proceedings herein, viz., that though it appears by his letters from sea to the Secretary of the Admiralty that he was the original accuser of the captain, and that of crimes which would not escape the cognisance of a great many more besides himself, yet so unable he found himself of producing any witness in proof of the greatest part of his charge against the captain (what he confessed himself excepted) as that he was driven to make his kinsman who was on board the accuser, that himself might be at liberty to stand for a witness.

FEBRUARY 12, 1675[-6]

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Lauderdale; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Craven; Lord Ossory; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Report was this day presented to his Majesty and my Lords from a court-martial lately held upon Captain Joseph Harris,² late commander of the Quaker ketch,

¹ Neither Captain Stout nor Lieutenant Butcher was again employed (see Pepys's *Register of Sea-Officers*). Charnock (*Biogr. Nav.*, i. 313) mentions the fact in the case of the former, but gives no reason.

² See 6th February.

by sentence of which court (he being found guilty of the matter whereof he stood accused, viz., of striking his topsail to a Spanish man-of-war in the Bay of Biscay) he is condemned to be shot to death,¹ which sentence his Majesty was pleased to direct an order to be issued for the execution of on Monday next, with all appearance to be made of its being purposed to be really executed, even so far as to his being brought on board the *Anne yacht* (on which the court-martial was held) and the persons ready with their muskets who should be appointed to perform the same. But that, nevertheless, a warrant should be provided from his Majesty and then produced for his reprieve, grounded upon considerations of his former good services and known proofs of his courage,² and his having by fits his judgment greatly impaired by wounds heretofore received in his head; His Majesty being also pleased to declare his pleasure that he should have his pardon granted him under the great seal.

A paper being read, containing several particulars to be settled by order to the Officers of the Navy for the speedier putting the galley at Tangier out of charge³ by paying off of the seamen and officers, paying and sending home of the *bonavoglios*,⁴ laying securely up the hull of the galley and her stores, and disposing the slaves; ORDERED, that the same be referred to the consideration of the Officers of the Navy, who are to report their opinion thereupon to the King.

His Majesty being moved in what has been desired by Sir Thomas Clutterbuck and agreed to by their Lordships⁵ touching commendatory letters to be sent from his Majesty to the several princes to whose ports Sir Thomas C. shall have occasion to send for victuals for his Majesty's fleet on the Mediterranean, and Sir T. C. being called in and computing⁶ that no ineffectualness of those letters should be at any time brought in excuse by him for any failure in his timely supplies of his Majesty's ships, his Majesty was pleased, with the advice of my

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xxxviii.

² See Charnock, *Biogr. Nav.*, i. 233.

³ See 6th February.

⁴ MS. 'Bonabolios'; these were free and paid members of the galley's crew.

⁵ See 22nd January.

⁶ Taking into consideration.

Lords, on that condition to grant the letters desired, and Sir T. C. was directed to attend Mr. Secretary Coventry for the same.

Sir Jonas Moore¹ attending by his Majesty's directions for an order to the Officers of the Navy for his being supplied with 2 or 3 unserviceable masts and other small pieces of timber for spars for the use of the observatory now in building by his Majesty in his park at Greenwich, the same was granted.

FEBRUARY 14, 1675-6

Treasury Chamber

Memorandum. That by special summons from the Lord Treasurer his Lordship was this day attended here by the Secretary of the Admiralty together with the Officers of the Navy undernamed²: Lord Brouncker, Sir Thomas Allin, Sir John Tippetts, Sir John Ernle, Sir Richard Haddock, Sir Anthony Deane, Mr. Hayter, Mr. John Pepys.

Where the business of the navy supplies of money³ for carrying on the ordinary and extraordinary services of the present year was by particulars debated and his Lordship's measures and intentions declared, and the same by his directions taken in writing by Captain Shales⁴ then attending, with orders to draw up the same in form to be sent from his Lordship to the Officers of the Navy for their guiding themselves accordingly; wherein a principal was that the Officers of the Navy being now supplied by seasonable proportions with the money arising upon the wear and tear of this year's fleet, with liberty to employ it to the present repairing of the ships now at home, they did undertake to his Lordship to have as many ships ready to go forth the next year as in the charge of them repairs shall equal the value of the wear

¹ On Sir Jonas Moore, the mathematician, see *D. N. B.*, xxxviii. 373. He had obtained from the king the foundation of the royal observatory at Greenwich.

² On these see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 40-41.

³ See 29th January.

⁴ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 73, 79. Captain Shales had formerly been purser of the Prince (p. 261 above) and was now clerk to the Lord Treasurer.

and tear of the present year's fleet, his Lordship undertaking to supply them with sums extraordinary for the answering of any extraordinary services which shall be called for from them, such as these two then particularly named, viz., the paying off of the galley at Tangier ¹ and building of the galley-frigate lately determined to be built by his Majesty ²; His Lordship being pleased on this occasion also to repeat his designs and injunctions to the Officers of the Navy which he lately offered to his Majesty at the Admiralty Board, ³ viz., That no extraordinary work may be entered upon before it be approved, and provided for by a special estimate.

FEBRUARY 16, 1675-6

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

The meeting being speedily appointed for the hearing of Sir Thomas Bridges ⁴ and Sir John Knight touching the Vice-Admiralty jurisdiction in some particulars claimed by the City of Bristol ⁵ by virtue of a grant whereof a copy was this day tendered to their Lordships by Sir John Knight, as the person chosen by the said City to satisfy their Lordships therein, and their Lordships being desirous of being informed from his Majesty's Council touching the construction of one clause in the said grant, they were pleased to dismiss the matter for this day, with a letter to Dr. Lloyd ⁶ on that behalf in the terms following, viz.—

After, etc., Whereas there hath been this day presented to us from the City of Bristol by the hand of Sir John Knight a copy of a grant said to have been made by his late Majesty in the 14th year of his reign by which a power of Admiral jurisdiction in some particular matters is conferred upon the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen of the said City within the same and the

¹ See 12th February.

² See 6th February.

³ See 15th January.

⁴ Vice-admiral of Somerset.

⁵ See 29th January.

⁶ Surrogate to the judge of the admiralty. See *D. N. B.*, xxxiii. 430.

precincts thereof, with an *Ita quod liceat* to the Lord High Admiral of England and his Lieutenant and other officers of his Court of Admiralty reserved for enabling them to continue to exercise all powers to them formerly belonging in the said matters ; We do hereby desire that you will on Saturday morning next report to us your opinion concerning the constitutions of the last clause of the said grant, and particularly whether by the words *Locum-tenens et alii officiales et ministri supremæ Curiae Admiralitatis*¹ therein contained is not included the Vice-Admiral of the City and County of Bristol, or whether they respect only the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty and the officers appertaining thereto, exclusive to the said Vice-Admiral. So we remain, Your loving friend[s], ANG[LESEY], OSSORY, CRAVEN.

D[erby] H[ouse], 16 February 1675-6.

Their Lordships taking also into consideration the business of Captain Jolly,² and the several papers lately received from him and the Commissioners for the Admiral's Rights relating to his exceptions to the account of the said Commissioners, determined in his favour (as all that appeared to remain in their power to do to his benefit in that matter) that the £164 demanded at Plymouth by the Vice-Admiral and his officers there for rewards, or so much thereof after all charges in that port satisfied, shall be paid him.

FEBRUARY 19, 1675-6

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

A petition being presented from Captain Joseph Harris,³ praying his Majesty's pardon of the crime for which he was lately sentenced to be shot to death, and that he might be discharged from his present imprisonment, his Majesty was graciously pleased to declare that

¹ MS. '*Locum-tenens et alii officiales et ministri supremæ Curiae Admiralitatis*.' Pepys's Latin must have become rusty.

² He has hitherto appeared as 'Captain Idle.'

³ See 12th February.

his pardon should be granted him under the great seal, but upon debate 'twas judged necessary for his pardon to be actually passed before he could be held capable of being discharged his imprisonment.

Dr. Lloyd's opinion¹ being this day presented to their Lordships under his hand touching the constitution of the words in dispute in the grant of the late King from whence the City of Bristol derive their pretence to have Vice-Admiralty jurisdiction in certain particulars within their own precincts, which report of Dr. Lloyd minister[s] in these terms following :—

May it please your Lordships,

I do humbly conceive that by the words *Ita quod liceat*,² etc., in the grant of his late Majesty to the City of Bristol is only meant and intended the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty and such officers as that Court doth and shall employ ; And that the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen³ of the said City have a jurisdiction exclusive only to the Vice-Admiral of those parts and his officers.

Your Lordships' most obedient servant,
Febr. 19th, 1675-6.

RICHARD LLOYD

His Majesty, with the advice of my Lords, was pleased to declare that, if Sir Thomas Bridges desires it, he may have his commission for Somerset and Bristol renewed to him in the said terms his former commission runs and his predecessors', but with a caution that no Vice-Admiralty Courts be held by him within the City of Bristol touching the matters wherein by the said grant that City has a power of determining within itself, with an appeal lying therefrom to the Lord High Admiral and his Lieutenant, by which is understood (according to Dr. Lloyd's forementioned construction thereof) the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty and his officers, exclusive to the Vice-Admiral of those parts and his.

Captain Gunman's⁴ account of charges in holding of several courts-martial being presented to the Lords,

¹ See 16th February.

² MS., ' *I take quod licate.*'

³ MS. ' Admiralty.'

⁴ Commander of the Anne yacht, on board which the court-martial was held to try Captain Harris, and president of the court.

with his request for present payment, the same was accordingly ORDERED.

Several of the officers of the Quaker ketch being accused by their captain of embezzlement of his Majesty's stores ; ORDERED, That they should be called to answer the same at a court-martial.¹

An estimate being presented from the Officers of the Navy of the charge of building the galley-frigate,² the same was passed and signed by the Lords in order to a privy seal to be issued for the same.

ORDERED, upon a report from the Officers of the Navy touching the state of his Majesty's several victualling offices and³ their appurtenances, to be enjoyed and kept in repair by the present contractors for victualling of the navy, that the particular surveys of each be fairly engrossed, and annexed to the original contract, with a reference made to them in the clause of the said contract relating to the offices.⁴

Mr. Speaker moves, that for the lessening his Majesty's charge the yacht which was to attend him as Treasurer of the Navy, and that which attends the Navy Office, may during peace be laid up ; Which his Majesty was pleased to take time to consider of. The like was done by my Lords in reference to a proposal made by the Officers of the Navy to their Lordships for having a clerk of the survey established at Woolwich distinct from that at Deptford.

ORDERED also, That the stores proposed by the Officers of the Navy to be sent to Malta be dispatched thither with all convenient speed, according to the estimate made thereof by the said Officers.

ORDERED also, upon a letter to that purpose from the Officers of the Navy, that £100 be imprested to the Carpenters' Company of London towards the present raising [a] partition wall between that part of their ground adjoining to his Majesty's in Seething Lane which his Majesty purposeth to purchase of them for the enlarging his Office of the Navy when it shall come to be rebuilt, and what thereof his Majesty doth not meddle with, as

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2785, 2789.

² See 6th February.

³ MS., 'said.'

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2793.

also toward payment for what his Majesty doth intend to buy of them.

ORDERED, at the importunity of Mr. Idle, that Sir John Fowell, Vice-Admiral of Devon, about his pretences to any charges or rewards to himself and his officers yet unsatisfied about the ship Bachelor ; that so it may be ascertained what further sum will be coming to Captain Idle out of the savings upon the shipwrights' accounts.

FEBRUARY 20, 1675-6

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Craven ; Lord Ossory ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker.]

ORDERED, That his Majesty's ships designed for the present year's convoy to Newfoundland being now preparing for the voyage, the Lords of the Committee for Foreign Plantations should be applied to for their taking into consideration what instructions (if any) they shall judge needful to be sent by the said ships agreeable to or different from those sent the last year by Sir John Berry.¹

Captain Levi Greene² petitioning for an allowance of half-pay as captain of a 2nd-rate ship, viz., the *St. George* ; ORDERED, that the same should not be allowed him, for the same reason for which it has been and is denied to Captain Langstoare,³ viz., as having been turned out of his command for misdemeanour.

His Majesty is pleased to declare his inclinations to the having a second galley-frigate⁴ built in his own yard at Woolwich by Mr. Pett, as being informed that the same may be done, without calling for much ready money, out of the timber already lying in his said yard and at Deptford ; ORDERED, That the same be referred to the Officers of the Navy to an estimate to be made of the charge thereof

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2802.

² See *ib.*, No. 2074. Captain Greene does not appear as the commander of the *St. George* or any other 2nd-rate in Pepys's *Register*.

³ Possibly Captain Anthony Langston, but he does not appear in Pepys's *Register* as the commander of a 2nd-rate.

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2799, 3240 *n*.

with respect to what timber and materials may be had out of his Majesty's said yards, without obstructing of other necessary works, and what ready money the same will require.

The Earl of Ossory moving his Majesty in behalf of Captain Tyrwhitt, That in regard of his long services¹ and great indigence he may receive his and his servant's wages stopped from him upon the score of some errors found in the ship's books, and Mr. Speaker opening it to his Majesty that the said errors did not arise (as he believed) from any dishonesty, but from the practices of the purser and steward and want of circumspection in himself; his Majesty was pleased on the said considerations to admit and order that a sum near the value of his and his servant's said wages should be given him, as of his grace and bounty, provided that it be done in such manner as not to be liable to the being brought in precedent, as if the said money had been paid him expressly for his wages after the same had been forfeited to his Majesty.

ORDERED, that the galley be laid up at Tangier in the manner proposed by letter from the Officers of the Navy upon their advising with Mr. Sheres.²

Mr. Speaker gives his Majesty an account of his having moved my Lord Treasurer for money for the speedy discharging of the galley's company.

Mr. Speaker does now also take into his hand the estimate for the galley-frigate in order to the soliciting for money for her.

A petition of Captain Hamilton's being read, praying the payment of his wages, stopped upon the Maryrose upon a suggestion of his carrying of merchants' goods; ORDERED, that the state of the matter be examined, and reported to the Board the next sitting.³

¹ Captain John Tyrwhitt's first command was the *Happy Return* in 1660; since then he had commanded eight other ships.

² Mr., afterwards Sir Henry, Sheeres was the engineer in charge of the mole at Tangier. See *D. N. B.*, lii. 10.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2799.

MARCH 4, 1675-6

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Chamberlain ¹ ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Ossory ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

A letter being read from Sir Robert Southwell, in behalf of his father,² desiring some directions for his proceedings in the case of sick men put on shore out of his Majesty's ships at Kinsale and the allowances which will be made for the cure thereof ; ORDERED, that it be referred to the Officers of the Navy to give their opinion therein to their Lordships touching what may be fit to be ordered on his Majesty's behalf concerning it.

Upon petition this day read from the executor of Sir Jeremy Smyth³ for his being allowed wages for the whole quarter within which his father died, suitable to what has been heretofore done in the navy in the like cases, and in particular the executors of Sir John Mennes,⁴ Sir William Batten,⁵ and Colonel Middleton⁶ ; the same was granted.

It appearing that no proof has been yet made of Captain Hamilton's pretended breach of instructions in carrying of merchant goods, etc.,⁷ for which his wages in the Maryrose has been stopped, and he remaining still in his Majesty's service, upon which further wages will grow due to him ; ORDERED, That the stop upon his wages on the Maryrose be removed, leaving him to answer for what (if anything) shall be hereafter proved against him of the matters alleged, out of the wages which shall grow due to him upon his future service.

The general survey of his Majesty's ships, storehouses, and wharfs, etc., presented⁸ by the O[ffic]ers [of the]

¹ The Earl of Arlington ; see note on p. 230 above.

² On Sir Robert Southwell, the diplomatist, and his father, Robert Southwell of Kinsale, see *D. N. B.*, liii. 299.

³ Sir Jeremy Smyth, the comptroller of victualling, died in October or November 1675 (*D. N. B.*, liii. 65). There are references to his ill-health in *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2425, 2581.

⁴ *D. N. B.*, xxxvii. 253.

⁵ *Ib.*, iii. 418. He was surveyor of the navy.

⁶ Colonel Thomas Middleton, who succeeded Batten in 1667 as surveyor of the navy, died in December 1672.

⁷ See 20th February.

⁸ MS., ' presently.'

N[avy] being read, together with the general sum at which the repair thereof is computed, the same was referred to the Lord Treasurer for making provision of money for the same as far as the state of his Majesty's treasure will admit, his Majesty's promise to the Parliament being remembered by which he was pleased to take upon himself the repair of the old fleet out of his revenue without any aid from them other than for the building of new ships, in order to which the Secretary of the Admiralty is directed to give his Lordship a copy of the letter and report of the Officers of the Navy containing the aforementioned survey, which was accordingly done by Mr. Pepys this day.

Mr. Mills, purser of the Reserve,¹ some time since suspended from his employment and now petitioning that he may be allowed to go the voyage on which the ship is now designed to Newfoundland, it was denied, and another ordered to be put into his place.²

Upon a motion of Mr. Speaker, it was RESOLVED, that he forbear the payment of any more money to Major Beckford, late slopseller of the navy, until he brings in a particular of all the clothes issued by him in specie³ to the pursers on which he expects allowance from his Majesty.

Captain Gallop petitioning for the removal of the stop of his wages upon the Thomas and Francis upon score of the errors of his ship's book to the King's prejudice, and it being noted that nothing or very little of all the frauds practised by under-officers so much complained of could take place did captains know and perform their duties, and that nothing can prevent the said evils till captains by some acts of severity be constrained to perform their duties as they ought.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy being read, wherein they endeavoured to discharge their duty enjoined them in the 43rd article of the Lord High Admiral's Instructions to commanders, by informing my Lords in the failure of the three captains mentioned

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2789.

² *Margin*: 'Mr. Mills laid aside.'

³ In kind.

in the margin to perform the Lord High Admiral's Instructions to them in several points therein respectively particulariated,¹ and it being noted to his Majesty that as from hence proceeds all the disorders in the navy, and that no time can be fitter for exacting from commanders a strict conformity to their instructions than now in time of peace, and that neither now nor at any other time any amendment is to be hoped for while commanders are indemnified in all their violations of order ; It is RESOLVED, That the Officers of the N[avy] should put a stop to the payment of any wages to the said commanders, and that the forfeiture of their wages be finally exacted from them ; Mr. Pepys also is directed in his next letters to be by him communicated to his commanders under him, for their being better informed in what they are to look for at their next coming home, in case of their no better compliance with their orders.

Margin : Captain William Harman² ; Captain David Trotter³ ; Captain Jon[athan] Waltham.⁴

The pursers of the 5th-rate ships petitioning that they may be borne in ordinary as the pursers of great ships are, the same was found not to agree with the ancient practice of the navy, and therefore would be a chargeable and useless innovation to his Majesty, and therefore was denied.

Captain Waltham⁵ petitioning for consideration for his time and charge between his parting hence and his finding of the Deptford ketch in the Straits, which he went to take charge of upon the displacing of Captain Anguish, the Officers of the Navy allowing him pay for no longer time than from his actual entering upon the said ketch ; the same was granted.

The like was also done in behalf of Monsieur Grill touching his pretence to wages as clerk of the galley under Sir John Duteil.

¹ This is another of Pepys's coined words.

² Commander of the Bristol.

³ Late commander of the Speedwell ; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2817.

⁴ Commander of the Deptford ketch.

⁵ MS. ' Williams,' but see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2327.

MARCH 9, 1675-6

[*Present*: Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Their Lordships being met in pursuance of an Order of Council of yesterday's date referring to the consideration of my Lords of the Admiralty the new rules for the regulating of passes, which was then presented to the Council Board by the Lords Commissioners for Trade, the said Order of Council with all papers annexed thereto were read, and debated with the Commissioners of the Customs attending, and the said rules therein contained fully approved, with this only alteration proposed to be made therein, viz. :—

That after the word *Those* in the 3rd line, and after the word *Such* in the 6th line, in the 6th article of the paper of Rules concerning Passes in General, be added these words, *Masters of ships*,

which was accordingly RESOLVED to be reported to his Majesty in Council, with this following note, viz., that forasmuch as by the 15th article of the said Rules the passes which hereafter shall be granted in pursuance of the treaties with Argier, Tunis, and Tripoli are (together with those to the E. and W. Indies) determinable with the voyage, Whereas by his Majesty's late proclamations of the 22nd December and 28th January last they are declared to remain in force no longer than for the space of a year from the day of their respective dates, their Lordships conceive it to be expedient, both for the satisfaction of those Governments and security of his Majesty's subjects concerned therein, that this change be made known by proclamation, and that to that purpose it may be provided for among the other particulars relating to this affair which were lately prepared in order to a proclamation by the Lords of the said Committee and referred to the consideration of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs.

MARCH 11, 1675-6

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty was pleased to acquaint their Lordships with his purpose of sending a 5th-rate ship at his own charge for the discovery of the North-East Passage,¹ invited thereto by the discourse he has lately had on that subject with Captain John Wood (late captain of the *Bonadventure*, and formerly serving under Sir John Narbrough in his passage through the Straits of Magellan²) relating both to the probability of such a passage, and the importance of it to the benefit of navigation in case it can be found; That he designs the said Captain Wood for the command of the said ship; That the ship be speedily to be taken from her intended voyage to Newfoundland and forthwith sheathed and fitted for this; That the *Pearl* be taken in hand and fitted in the room of the *Speedwell*; That the *Speedwell* be fitted forthwith with victuals and stores for a voyage of 16 months, which is supposed a complete supply for the voyage in case the Passage be found, if not, she may probably be at home again in 8, in which latter case, to prevent her coming home without any profit, it is proposed she may either be employed in fishing during the season or go to Archangel and be freighted home with merchandise. If the Passage be found, she is to seek out what trade can be found upon the coast of Tartary or *Jayan*,³ and to which purpose she will, together with another vessel provided at the private charge of his Royal Highness and some other adventurers, be furnished with a cargo consisting of several samples of merchandise, in order to the discovering of a future trade, but if none such can be obtained, the said ships are to proceed to Bantam with commission from the East India Company here, to be sent

¹ On Captain John Wood's voyage in the *Speedwell* for the discovery of the north-east passage, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xxiv and note 11.

² In November 1670; see *D. N. B.*, xl. 89.

³ Perhaps Japan.

home laden with pepper. In order to all which, his Majesty was pleased to direct that all necessary orders be signed by my Lords for the putting the same into speedy execution.

Mills, the purser of the Reserve, petitioning again¹ that he might be permitted to go with his ship upon her present voyage to Newfoundland, is again denied it.

Mr. Speaker giving his Majesty an instance of the great difference between the true value of the clothes issued by the slopseller and what is at the end of the voyage generally brought to an account upon the ship's book, amounting to a difference of £4000 in one little calculation which he has made upon a few ships, moved that an order might be issued requiring the slopseller to bring in a particular account of the clothes actually supplied the purser¹ in order to a further discovery of this practice; which was granted.

ORDERED, That Captain Kirke, one of the master attendants at Chatham, be sent to Woodbridge with commission as commander to bring from thence the Kingfisher, newly built there for his Majesty by Mr. Pett.

ORDERED, That the charges sustained by Mr. Northall, mate of the Wivenhoe guardship at Portsmouth, in his late trial² for killing the carpenter of the Oxford in pursuance of his duty upon the said guardship, the said carpenter with the company with him in the Oxford's boat refusing at an unseasonable time of the night to give answer as they ought to the guardship in their passing by her, be defrayed by his Majesty, and that the Officers of the Navy be authorised to see the same speedily done accordingly.

MARCH 18, 1675-6

[*Present* : The King; Lord Chancellor; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker.]

A petition being read from the officers of the ordinary at Chatham, setting forth that they are, by the strictness of Sir Richard Beach's³ construction of the late rules

¹ See 4th March.

² See 22nd January.

³ Resident commissioner of the navy at Chatham.

about waiting on the King's ships, obliged to keep on board all day as well as night; ORDERED, that the matter of fact be referred to the examination of the O[fficers] [of the] N[avy], who are to report the same to their Lordships, with their opinion what may be done therein to the satisfaction of the petitioners without inconveniency to his Majesty's service.

Sir Jonas Moore's second desire¹ for the supply of a few pieces of small timber for spars granted, for the use of his Majesty's observatory building at Greenwich.

Mr. Baylie, the shipwright at Bristol, petitioning for a protection² against arrest, until he should be satisfied for moneys in arrear to him from his Majesty, the same could not be granted him.

The Officers of the Navy ordered to hasten the Speedwell all that may be.³

Their letter containing their report of the several things needful to be done upon the discharging of the galley at Tangier⁴ read, approved, and directed to be put in execution.

ORDERED, That the passes to the Straits do, notwithstanding the late rules to the contrary, continue to run according to the terms of the late proclamation by which they are declared to last but for a year, this having been proposed as an amendment to the said rules and agreed to at the Council Table since the passing of the said rules.

An estimate for the galley-frigate to be built at Woolwich⁴ by Mr. Pett, amounting to £4535, signed, and ORDERED to be gone presently⁵ in hand with.

A letter being read from Sir John Fowell giving up his pretences to any particular reward to himself upon the account of the ship Bachelor, the whole business of Captain Jolly⁶ is now finally determined, and his satisfaction declared therein in his being ordered to be paid by the Commissioners of the Admiral's Rights so much as the money amounts to as were demanded for a reward

¹ See 12th February.

² MS. 'petition.'

³ See 11th March.

⁴ See 20th February.

⁵ *I.e.*, immediately.

⁶ The reference is clearly to Captain Idle and the ship Bachelor.

to the said Sir John Fowell¹ and to Mr. Bucknam, Mr. Jolly² only praying his Majesty and their Lordships remembering of him his hard fortune in this affair when he shall become a petitioner for his Majesty's favour in any matter that may not be chargeable to his Majesty.

An estimate being presented from the Master of the Ordnance³ of the value of gunners' stores needful to be sent to Malta for Sir John Narbrough's fleet, amounting to £4629 9s. 2d., the same was approved, and directed to be tendered to the Council Board at the next Council.

Report being made from the Officers of the Navy that the wages stopped from Captain Tyrwhitt⁴ for himself and servants amounts to about £360, which his Majesty has been pleased to resolve to forgive him by way of bounty, and not as wages, for preventing a precedent ; RESOLVED, That the sum so to be given him be the round sum of £350.

Captain Wylde, late commander of the *Centurion*, complaining by petition that his late voyage with Sir John Finch, Ambassador to Constantinople,⁵ having been very chargeable to him, he has nevertheless by means of the said Ambassador been prevented of the benefit of the present customarily made by the Turks' Company to the captain of the King's ship which carries an ambassador for them to Constantinople, viz. £100, which Sir Thomas Allin, now attending, witnessed his having received from the said Company, and as much more from the Lord Winchelsea, then Ambassador,⁶ neither of which Captain Wylde has had ; ORDERED, that Mr. Secretary Coventry do write to the Turkey Company, that Captain Wylde may receive the same acknowledgment from them which other commanders in like case have done, his Majesty expecting it.

¹ Vice-admiral of Devon ; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2866.

² MS. 'Jolley,' but see footnote 6, p. 293.

³ Sir Thomas Chicheley.

⁴ See 20th February.

⁵ On Sir John Finch's embassy to Constantinople in 1672 see *D. N. B.*, xix. 18.

⁶ Heneage Finch, second Earl of Winchelsea, went on an embassy to Constantinople early in 1661 (*D. N. B.*, xix. 11). At that time Sir Thomas Allin was in command of the *Plymouth*.

EASTER DAY, MARCH 26, 1676

[At Whitehall. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Chamberlain ; Lord Lieutenant of Ireland¹ ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Sir John Narbrough's letter of the 20th February last was read, giving his Majesty and my Lords the satisfaction of a very particular account of his late action of burning 4 ships of war, all that were then within the port at Tripoli, by boats sent in the night with firework[s] from his ships, under the command of Lieutenant Cloudisly Shovell,² his second lieutenant ; ORDERED, That his Majesty's approval and full satisfaction in the management of this action be signified to Sir John Narbrough, together with his well taking of what he has done already, and made further promise of, in reward to the several officers and men employed therein.

That his Majesty will write to his Ambassador at Constantinople about the leave he desires of attacking the Tripoleens' ships within any of the Grand Signior's³ ports.

That his Majesty assents to what he proposes of attacking any forts upon the coast which he shall understand strictly to appertain to the Government of Tripoli.

That his Majesty approves of his discharging the Christian Greeks his captives ; and orders that all the stores designed for supply of that fleet be forewarned away from thence, notwithstanding the reasonable presumption Sir John Narbrough seems to have of bringing the Tripoleens to a speedy peace.

The Lord Duke of Lauderdale⁴ moving for a pass to

¹ Arthur Capel, Earl of Essex, was lord lieutenant of Ireland from 1672 to 1677, but he was on a visit to London from July 1675 to May 1676 (*D. N. B.*, ix. 14). He was not a member of the admiralty commission.

² On Sir Clowdisley Shovell see *D. N. B.*, lii. 159. See also *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2832.

³ MS. 'Senjour's.' See also *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2832.

⁴ *D. N. B.*, xxxv. 360. Lauderdale was at this time in chief control of the affairs of Scotland.

the Straits to a ship now in Scotland bound thither, his Grace asserting the propriety to be truly Scotch, the same was granted, in case she come with[in] the rules established.

MARCH 28, 1676

Council Table

His Majesty was pleased, at the motion of his Royal Highness, to signify in particular to the Earl of Anglesey, (Mr. Pepys at the same time attending) in order to its being communicated to the Lords of the Admiralty, that the vessel which shall be provided by the private adventurers to the N.E. Passage¹ to accompany his ship the Speedwell on that discovery, be for the better discipline of the said vessel taken to be his Majesty's, to go in his pay with his commission and method of victualling, the said adventurers undertaking to indemnify his Majesty against all charge or loss that may arise therefrom.

The like his Majesty did touching his pleasure of having a 4th-rate ship, the Assurance, speedily fitted forth in part of the summer guard appointed for the service of the Narrow Seas this present year.

APRIL 1, 1676

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Craven.]

Several petitions read, particularly one from Hadley,² late boatswain of the Guernsey, sentenced to 3 months imprisonment by a court-martial, praying his freedom in order to his being enabled to pass his accounts with the Navy Board. Referred to the Officers of the Navy, to report their opinion how far the said boatswain's liberty is necessary on that behalf.

Mr. Dam³ purser of the Newcastle[s] protection from arrests judged unfit to be granted, the ship being in harbour.

¹ See 11th March.

² So in the margin ; but MS. ' Haddlesey.'

³ *Margin* : ' Mr. Dam's petition.' He reappears a year later in the *Admiralty Letters* (No. 3883 : 19th April, 1677) as still in danger of arrest for debt.

Mr. Baylie, shipwright of Bristol, petitions for an allowance for his extraordinary works beyond contract performed upon the ship Oxford built by him for his Majesty, as the said works have been stated and reported by the Officers of the Navy; which their Lordships think unfit for them to do anything in without a fuller Board and his Majesty present, the demand being grounded upon a seeming breach of contract.

Sir John Narbrough's letter and narrative of his action was read, and an account given their Lordships¹ by Mr. Pepys of his Majesty's answer thereto.

Colonel Kennedy petitioning for his being re-possessed of the arms belonging to himself which he carried with him on board the vessel whereon he seized Cusack the pirate,² but are now detained from him by the Marshal of the Admiralty as seized with the vessel; ORDERED, that Colonel Kennedy be directed to make oath that the arms did truly belong to him, upon which, if nothing appear to the contrary from the Marshal of the Admiralty, the arms will be delivered to him.

[Here follow two blank pages.]

APRIL 8, 1676

[Present: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Auditor Bridges, one of the auditors of the imprest, together with Mr. Brewer, deputy-auditor, waiting upon my Lords with an order out of the Exchequer Court, by which that Court hath committed to Sir Richard Langley (another of the auditors of the imprest) and the said Auditor Bridges the examination of an account wherein Major Beckford, late slopseller of his Majesty's navy, is made debtor to his Majesty upon the information of Mr. Jones in the sum of eight thousand pounds upon account of so much fraudulently received

¹ The lord privy seal and Lord Craven were not present at the meeting on 26th March at which this account was first read and the answer determined upon.

² *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1226 and 2067; also pp. 124, 127 above.

from his Majesty upon false bills of clothes, obtained from the Principal Officers and Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy all the books and papers belonging to his Majesty's ships within the several years mentioned in the said order, Pursuant whereto Mr. Auditor Bridges having made his application to the Officers of the Navy, both one and the other now attending to pray the directions of my Lords, who, as well out of their desire that all due conformity should be paid by the Officers of the Navy to this order of the Court of Exchequer, as knowing the pernicious use which might be made of the exposing of so many of his Majesty's ships' books to such hands as Mr. Jones's and his crew, were pleased both by discourse and by letter afterwards of this day's date to let Mr. Auditor Bridges know that as soon as he shall present their Lordships with a particular of the names of the ships and persons upon which any of the said frauds have been practised, and the false bills of clothes by virtue of which the said £8000 or any part thereof hath (as is alleged) been fraudulently obtained, they will direct an Officer of the Navy to attend him from time to time with the books and papers of each of the said ships successively, with free liberty to the said auditor himself, and no other, to make what use he shall on his Majesty's behalf see fit to make of the said books in presence of the said Officer; Declaring, That the safety of his Majesty's service and treasure will not admit of the exposal of the said books and papers in any other manner.

Their Lordships being informed that whereas they had, in pursuance of his Majesty's command, issued their warrants to the Treasurer of the Navy for payments of several sums, and particularly £350 as his Majesty's bounty to Captain Tyrwhitt,¹ and a bill of charges of about £10 expended by William Northall in his late trial for killing the carpenter of the Oxford in his passing by the guardship at Portsmouth at an unseasonable time of the night without giving due answer to the call of the said ship,² and for £100 to the Company of Carpenters of London towards payment for a piece of their ground

¹ See 18th March.

² See 11th March.

adjoining to his Majesty's in Seething Lane,¹ none of which can be paid, as the Officers of the Navy report, for want of particular assignation of moneys to be applied for these uses; Their Lordships were pleased to RESOLVE, pursuant to the late resolutions of keeping strictly to the method of estimates,² that for so many of the said particulars, or any others now in being of the same kind, for which no estimates are already provided, the Officers of the Navy be directed to prepare and present them with one estimate for them all, which being afterwards signed according to form by their Lordships, it is transmitted to the Treasurer of the Navy in order to his soliciting my Lord Treasurer for special provision of moneys for payment of the same.

Sir Thomas Warner, brother of Colonel Warner³ (who is now going prisoner from hence to the Barbadoes in the Phoenix, which is going to Jamaica) praying passage for himself and a servant to accompany his brother, the same is granted.

RESOLVED, that the Commissioners for Tangier be moved by my Lords of the Admiralty for their directing a shed to be made there for the covering of the galley out of the stores belonging to Tangier, with promise of repaying them the said stores from the navy by the first opportunity.

The Officers of the Navy are directed to hasten the return of the Phoenix's men which are borrowed from her to carry the Woolwich to Chatham.

Colonel Kennedy making oath concerning the arms,⁴ these are ordered to be restored to him.

The Company of the Royal Fishery petitioning for the use of his Majesty's storehouses at Harwich which lie unemployed during peace, it is referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider and report their opinion how

¹ See 19th February. Another negotiation for ground for enlarging the navy office is referred to in *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2808.

² See 15th January.

³ Philip Warner, formerly governor of Antigua, was being sent to Barbados to be tried for a massacre of natives in Dominica (*D. N. B.*, lix. 404). His brother Thomas Warner, attorney-general of Barbados, had been knighted in 1675. He is not mentioned in the *D. N. B.*

⁴ See 1st April.

far they may be accommodated therein without prejudice to his Majesty.

Mr. Pepys desiring the direction of the Lords touching his attending his Majesty and my Lord Treasurer at Newmarket in order to the dispatch of Mr. Sheeres¹ towards Tangier by procuring the speedy payment of the money to be advanced him; It was thought unnecessary, in regard of his Majesty's resolutions of returning speedily to Whitehall.

Several letters and petitions upon ordinary occasions read and answered.

APRIL 15, 1676

[*Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Pepys presented their Lordships with a letter come yesterday to hand from Sir Roger Strickland,² bearing date the 11th of March from Malta (a copy whereof he had immediately upon its receipt dispatched away by express to the Court at Newmarket) wherein, upon the coming thither of the Assistance and Dartmouth from Tripoli, he gives notice of a peace concluded the 5th March between Sir John Narbrough and the town of Tripoli, enclosing a copy of the articles, which being read, were judged by my Lords most honourable and satisfactory. Upon which Mr. Pepys demanding their Lordships' directions touching some money and provisions now shipped and departing for Malta for the use of the fleet there—whether upon these tidings of peace they should be yet forwarded, or stopped—their Lordships were pleased to forbear the giving any direction therein, in regard the articles do not come from Sir John Narbrough himself, but directed Mr. Pepys to attend his Majesty for his orders therein.

The Officers of the Navy moving my Lords for leave to hire that part of Mr. Bland's house in Mark Lane which he and his family inhabits in, for the enlarging

¹ Engineer in charge of the mole at Tangier. See *D.N.B.*, lii. 10.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2850.

and securing that other part thereof wherein the Office of the Navy is held, and which through the want of the part first mentioned is found too strait for the dispatch of the business of the Office, and judged unsafe for the papers lying therein ; Their Lordships were pleased to approve of this their proposal, but respite their giving any directions in it till his Majesty's pleasure be known concerning it.

ORDERED, by the advice of the Officers of the Navy, that £100 be put into the hands of Captain Wood for the answering of contingent expenses in the voyage he is designed upon for the N.E. Passage.

Mr. Pepys is directed to take and signify the King's pleasure touching the Norwich, lately come in to Portsmouth from her station on the coast of Ireland, whether she shall be repaired there and sent back to her said station, or laid up and another set forth in her room.

The Lords being advised of a vessel brought into the Downs,¹ and left there in the custody of Captain Clements by the Deptford ketch, Captain Tyte commander, which had been taken by a French caper, who he had been informed at sea had done several injuries to ships of his Majesty's subjects, Which prize of the Frenchman's is said to be a Holsteiner, and had a master and 5 men of the caper's company on board her ; ORDERED by the Lords, that Captain Clements do take care to detain the said vessel until some certain knowledge can be had of any particular injuries that can be charged and proved upon the said caper done to the King's subjects, but that he do not by any means dispossess either the Frenchmen or the Holsteiners of the said vessel, but only secure her and preserve her lading and all things belonging to her from embezzlement.²

Leave given by the Lords, upon request made from Colonel Warner that 2 children of his may have passage with him in the Phoenix to Barbadoes.³

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2844.

² See *ib.*, No. 2853.

³ See 8th April.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Sir Roger Strickland's letter mentioned yesterday, with the articles of the peace made by Sir John Narbrough at Tripoli, was read, and his Majesty's utmost satisfaction expressed therein, and RESOLVED, That Mr. Pepys do confer with the Officers of the Navy¹ touching the stopping the stores and provisions going to Malta, and whether they being actually shipped it may not be of benefit to his Majesty to let them go, to be left at Tangier for the future use of his ships there, in case this advice of the peace from Sir Roger Strickland should hold good.²

Mr. Secretary Coventry moving his Majesty for directions touching a frigate or yacht to be sent (by his Majesty's promise) to Havre de Grâce for the taking in and transporting of Monsieur de Béthune, Ambassador from the King of France,³ to Portland, and consideration being had that a yacht is more commodious and as safe for him, and that there is no frigate in present readiness to be spared for this occasion; It was committed to Mr. Secretary Coventry to satisfy Monsieur Ruvigny herein, letting him know that several of his Majesty's own ambassadors have had and chosen their passage for the same voyage in yachts, and that the Portsmouth yacht shall be appointed for the carrying him.

APRIL 22, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

An Order of Council being read, directing my Lords to commit to the care of the commanders-in-chief of the

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2856.

² MS. 'should not hold good'—the 'not' being inserted as an afterthought, and evidently in error.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2812, 2860, 2863.

convoys appointed for Newfoundland several inquiries relating to the trade of that place; RESOLVED, that the same be done accordingly.

His Majesty being moved in the matter propounded by the Officers of the Navy the 15th instant touching their being authorised to hire for his Majesty's service the other moiety of Mr. Bland's house, wherein the Office of the Navy is now held, which will be had at £60 per annum; His Majesty, upon the reasons then given, is pleased, with the assent of the Lord Treasurer, to direct that the same be done accordingly.

A report from the Officers of the Navy, touching the fittest method of provision to be made at Kinsale for the relief and cure of sick and hurt seamen which shall be put on shore there out of his Majesty's ships, was read and approved.

Mr. Pepys opening to his Majesty and my Lords the complaints which had been made by Sir Richard Beach touching Mr. Minors,¹ purser of the Sovereign, his neglect of duty in not attending on board his ship in harbour but absenting himself therefrom either without or beyond leave, for which neglect the said Minors has remained suspended from his place ever since Christmas last, and the said Sir Richard Beach, by letter to Mr. Pepys now read, solicits for his restoration, as being assured of his better deportment for the time to come; his Majesty and their Lordships were pleased, at the said instance of Sir Richard Beach, to declare themselves satisfied with Minors having lain too long suspended, and ORDERED his said suspension to be removed, his and his servant's pay during the suspension to be paid to the Chest.

A petition being read from the company of the Wivenhoe ketch, fireship, at Portsmouth, that being about 24 months in arrear of pay they might now be paid, the same was referred to my Lord Treasurer to see done as soon as money can be provided for the same.

The like petition being read from the shipwrights at Chatham for their pay, my Lord Treasurer informed his Majesty that out of the advance-money which he expected to receive from the Irish farmers² within 3 days, he had ordered a quarter's pay to all the yards.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2791.

² *I.e.*, of the customs.

A report from the Officers of the Navy being read, wherein they demand directions touching their paying Captain Stout, late commander of the *Success*, in regard of his falling short in some particulars of the Lord High Admiral's Instructions not fully complied with by him in his last voyage; his Majesty, in regard of the fewness and small importance of the said failures, was pleased to remit the same, ordering payment to be made him of his wages.

Mr. Pepys observing to his Majesty and my Lords that as well Mr. Waith,¹ who is now required to attend the auditors with the ships' books upon the late informations of Mr. Jones in the Exchequer against Major Beckford the slopseller, as the other clerks of the navy who are, have been, and are still likely to be put to extraordinary attendance upon occasion of the like or same informations of Mr. Jones; RESOLVED, That though no visible benefit has yet redounded to his Majesty from the said Jones's informations hitherto, yet that no light should be denied to Jones which he shall demand for the justifying of the same, for preventing any malicious reports which in such case he might take ground of raising to the dishonour of his Majesty's service and his officers employed therein, and that therefore Mr. Waith and the rest of the clerks which have been and shall happen to be put to any extraordinary attendance on this occasion shall have the same allowance made them for the same as by the rules of the Navy Office is usually made in like cases.

Mr. Pepys presented the Board with a list of all the cripples at this day belonging to the Chest at Chatham, sorted according to the counties and towns wherein they inhabit, in order to their being recommended to any hospitals wherein vacancies shall happen to fall within their respective abodes within his Majesty's gift. Which list was put into the hands of Mr. Secretary Williamson, and the care committed to him of seeing the same improved to the benefit of the Chest as such vacancies in his Majesty's gift shall fall.

A report of the Officers of the Navy touching Captain Waltham's charges to be allowed him for his passage

¹ A paymaster of the navy.

to the Straits in search of the Deptford ketch (which he was to command upon Captain Anguish's removal), and another touching Captain Wright's being paid as commander of the Kitchen yacht for the time he served in her (upon being called to that purpose from out of the Bezan before he had a commission for her), were read and approved.

Mrs. Colt, administratrix and pretended wife to the late Captain Colt, commander of the Vulture sloop, praying payment of the wages due to her in right of the said captain; to which his Highness Prince Rupert was pleased to oppose the pretences of some of the brothers of the said Captain Colt, as questioning the truth of her being his wife: ORDERED, That the said brothers have notice of this petition, and that their answer be known thereto before anything be directed touching the same.

Mr. Sliter, master-ropemaker of his Majesty's yard at Chatham, petitioning for an increase of salary to his said employment; RESOLVED, that the same be referred to the consideration of the Officers of the Navy, who are to report their opinion how far the same may be reasonable to be done at this time upon inducements that may not equally be urged for the like increase by other officers of the navy.

An account being given by Mr. Pepys of a letter received from Captain Clements, commander-in-chief in the Downs, that particular evidence is brought in proof of any wrongs done to his Majesty's subjects by the French capers mentioned in the *Journal* of the 15th instant which had been suggested by Captain Tyte, commander of the Richmond yacht, who brought in the Holstein vessel which he had taken from the said caper¹; ORDERED, That unless Captain Tyte shall within a small time produce some clear evidence of particular injuries done by the said caper to some of his Majesty's subjects, the Holstein vessel be directed to be discharged, without any long detention or being put to any other charge than that of making reasonable allowance to Captain Clements for the victuals she has been supplied with from him, and

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2844, 2853, 2897.

that Captain Tyte receive a rebuke for his bringing in the said vessel upon no better grounds.

APRIL 29, 1676

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Chamberlain¹ ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Pepys opening to his Majesty and my Lords (his Royal Highness being present) that his said Highness, with the rest of the private adventurers,² whereof Mr. Secretary Williamson and Mr. Pepys now attending are two, had, according to their undertaking to his Majesty, provided a vessel, namely, the Prosperous pink, at their own charge, to accompany his Majesty's ship Speedwell in her intended voyage to the discovery of the North-East Passage ; and that the said ship being designed to be entirely at the disposal of Captain Wood, commander of his Majesty's said ship (though at their charge) during the whole voyage, it would [be desirable], in order to the preservation of discipline between the 2 ships, that the latter be put into the King's hands in the same method of victuals and wages as his own ships, with commission and warrants from him to her commander and officers ; It was RESOLVED, That the Officers of the Navy should by charter-party hire the said pink as they do other vessels hired for his Majesty's service (she being entirely so), and that commission and warrants from his Majesty be likewise given to her commander and officers ; the said private adventurers (owners of the said pink) obliging themselves by some joint act under their hands to indemnify his Majesty against all charge of victuals, wages, wear and tear, freight, or aught else that has or may arise in any wise whatsoever upon account of the said vessel.

Mr. Pepys opening also to my Lords, by his Majesty's command, the request and proposition which has been

¹ See note on p. 230 above.

² For the names of the adventurers see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii., p. xxv, note 11. See also *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2839.

lately made to him by the Royal Company, That his Majesty would be pleased, for the better countenancing and protecting of their trade upon the coast¹ of Guinea, to accommodate them with a man-of-war, upon the terms of their being obliged to defray the whole charge thereof by allowing to his Majesty the full of what the medium of the navy, at the rate of £4 per man a month, shall amount to upon the said ship for her whole present complement of men, being 70, from the time of her being appointed to this service to the day of her being returned to his Majesty at some one of the ports of England where she shall be directed to be delivered and laid up; as also of their disbursing whatever sum of money shall be necessary to be presently laid out for stores or other ways for the fitting her for this voyage; and it being also declared by his Majesty that the ship designed by him for this service is the Hunter,² lately called in from the Downs and now lying at Sheerness in order thereto; the same was concluded upon and agreed to put in execution so soon as the said Company shall by some act to the satisfaction of my Lords of the Admiralty oblige themselves to the making good the charge of the said ship in the manner and upon the terms aforesaid to his Majesty, and supply to the Treasurer of the Navy the sum of money requisite to be presently disbursed for the setting forth the said ship accordingly, computed by Sir John Tippetts, Surveyor of the Navy, at £320.

Mr. Pepys farther opening to his Majesty and my Lords the very great charge which he observes his Majesty's bounty to be attended with in the bearing of volunteers and midshipmen extraordinary upon his ships at sea above their complements, without any, or very little, visible fruits from the same, through it being for the most part applied to the entertaining of persons for volunteers too old and too long practised in the liberties and pleasures of the shore ever to apply themselves as they ought to do to the duty, obedience, and trade of a seaman, as also th[r]ough its being applied to persons

¹ MS. 'court.'

² A reference to this project in *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2825, suggests that Pepys was opposed to it. For the sequel see Nos. 2946, 2962, 2975.

for midshipmen extraordinary who are wholly incapable of doing the work thereof (though they may have spent some little time at sea) whereas this privilege was intended originally¹ from his Majesty for such only as having been commanders and lieutenants in time of war cannot by the smallness of the action be provided for with the like employment in time of peace, and all this to the insupportable inconveniency daily complained of by the commanders of the ships on which such midshipmen extraordinary and volunteers are imposed ; and Mr. Pepys presenting to his Majesty and their Lordships a collection of rules² which by his Majesty's command he had digested in order to the remedying of all this and rendering effectual this his Majesty's bounty to the good ends for which it was originally intended, the same were read, debated, approved, with the addition offered by the Officers of the Navy of obliging the midshipmen extraordinary to keep journals, and ORDERED to be put in execution,³ and particular care taken therein by the Secretary of the Admiralty and Officers of the Navy that the same be duly complied with.

The Officers of the Navy informing his Majesty and my Lords that, at the instance of Mr. Jones,⁴ Mr. Auditor Bridges do insist upon having the ticket-books brought from the Ticket Office, as well as the Treasurer's books, upon the occasion mentioned in the *Journal* of 8th instant ; ORDERED, that the said books be also from time to time shewn to the auditor, but with the same caution which is provided in the case of the other books, against their being put out of the possession of an Officer of the Navy, or exposed to any other view than that of the auditor himself.

It being observed to his Majesty and my Lords by Mr. Pepys that (however it comes about) the peace with

¹ See the establishment of the 24th September, 1671 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 214 n.

² For these rules, subsequently confirmed by James II in 1686, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 214.

³ This, ' the first general regulation issued, laying down the conditions under which midshipmen extra[ordinary] and volunteers might be borne in H.M. ships,' has been printed by Mr. W. G. Perrin in the *Mariner's Mirror* for April 1922. The order is dated 1st July, 1676.

⁴ See 8th April.

Tripoli is not yet confirmed, either by any letters from Sir John Narbrough or by any account from the merchants abroad, and that therefore it seemed needful to be considered whether the truth of the said single report from Sir Roger Strickland¹ is so to be relied upon as that the stores and provisions which were shipped for Malta and upon this tidings stopped in their departure shall continue so stopped; Sir Roger Strickland's letter was read afresh, and concluded so authentic as that the peace with Tripoli is not to be doubted, and therefore unnecessary to alter anything touching the stop of the said stores.

His Highness Prince Rupert informing the Board that the brothers of the late Captain Colt² are well contented that the said captain's pay be paid to the administratrix and pretended wife of the said captain³; RESOLVED, that the same should be paid accordingly.

The like done upon a report of the Officers of the Navy now read, touching the pay due to Monsieur Grill,⁴ lately entertained and employed by Sir John Duteil as secretary of the galley at Tangier.

The like agreed for the payment of the wages stopped from Captain Binning⁵ upon complaints yet unsatisfied brought against him by his purser, who is gone to sea; upon condition that Captain Binning give good security to his Majesty for his answering to anything that may hereafter be charged upon him at the return of the said purser, and making good whatsoever he shall be condemned in upon the score of anything to be charged and proved against him.

The Norwich to be refitted for Ireland.⁶

The like upon the Navy Officers' report touching the Indian slaves supplied his Majesty's galley at Tangier by Captain Spragge, commander of the Sampson Merchant, wherein it was ORDERED, That the said slaves be returned to Mr. Matthews⁷ at Cadiz, which, as the

¹ See 16th April.

³ MS. 'brothers.'

⁵ Commander of the Swan prize.

⁷ MS. 'Mathewes.'

² See 22nd April.

⁴ See 4th March.

⁶ See 15th April.

Officers of the Navy inform their Lordships, is what will be satisfactory to the said Captain Spragge.

Two reports being read from the Officers of the Navy in mitigation of the failures by them lately charged upon Captain William Harman and Captain Trotter in their not fully complying with the Lord High Admiral's Instructions during their late services, the former in the Bristol and the latter in the Speedwell, the said Officers of the Navy owing¹ in some particulars their own mistakes in their former reports²; His Majesty and their Lordships were pleased on these considerations to hold excused the said commanders for the small failures which seem to remain good upon them, and to order the stop to be removed which upon the said Officers' first reports had been put to the payment of their wages, with direction to the said Officers to continue their care in the noting the defects of commanders and reporting the same to their Lordships without partiality.

The Lord Treasurer delivering at the Board a petition of Henry Beverly, anchormith of his Majesty's yard at Portsmouth, praying that he may receive out of his Majesty's stores there a parcel of Swedes' iron which lies useless and perishing in the said stores, towards the payment of the debt to the value of above £600, the said iron being about 17 ton, and in value not equal to half his said debt; his Majesty and their Lordships were pleased to ORDER the same to be done, and allowed him at a reasonable price to be adjusted between his Majesty and him by the Officers of the Navy.

The Officers of the Navy, by their Lordships' letter of the 5th of April now read, observing that, in the abstract they had formerly presented their Lordships with of what money[s] were due from his Majesty upon bills made out to the pursers of his Majesty's ships and others upon the balance of their victualling accounts, there were several of the said bills for accounts which determined before the 1st of January '71, and that though they had, pursuant to their Lordships' order of the 24 October 1674 and another from my Lord Treasurer of the 30th November following, caused the said bills to be entered

¹ In the sense of 'owning,' 'acknowledging.'

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2817.

in course for payment and assigned many of them, yet before they proceeded further in the assigning such bills they desire their Lordships' directions for their so doing, Upon consideration now had, as well of what had been formerly ordered by his Majesty, their Lordships, and my Lord Treasurer in the present case, as that the said bills have been entered and numbered for payment in course, And, lastly, that many of the said bills have already been actually assigned and some paid pursuant thereto; It was RESOLVED, That the Officers of the Navy should proceed to the assigning the remainder of the bills in the said list, and what have since upon petition been ordered by their Lordships, in the same manner as the other formerly have been done.

Sir Philip Howard presenting a petition on behalf of himself and partners interested in the supplying his Majesty's navy with lead for sheathing of his ships, wherein setting forth the sum of money due to them for the same and praying an allowance of interest for the time they remain unsatisfied for the goods by them delivered, My Lord Treasurer opened to his Majesty the consequence of admitting that, with regard to the like applications which others with the same reasons may reasonably be expected will make for an allowance of interest. Upon which consideration his Majesty and my Lords thought not fit to determine anything presently¹ in favour of the petitioners, but left them to such other method of satisfaction to be hereafter provided by them as may be provided without exposing his Majesty to any such inconveniency.

MAY² 6, 1676

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

A request being proposed by Captain Russell's³ man going forth for Newfoundland in the Reserve, that meeting with great difficulty in the manning of the said ship he

¹ Immediately.

² MS. ' March.'

³ Captain Edward Russell, commander of the Reserve, afterwards admiral and Earl of Orford (*D. N. B.*, xlix. 429).

might be supplied out of the ordinary at Chatham, the Officers of the Navy declared it as their opinion, That it could be by no means justifiable to take away any men out of the ordinary, their numbers being as small as the safety of the King's ships will admit; upon which consideration the same was rejected by the Lords.

A petition being presented by one Bedford,¹ complaining that Brome, purser of the English Ruby,² whom by leave from their Lordships he had arrested, had been rescued by some men belonging to Captain Dickenson in the Hunter; RESOLVED, That Captain Dickenson be wrote to and reprehended about it, with a demand of an account from him of the same, and the present delivering up of the prisoner.

The Lords enquiring of the Officers of the Navy touching the condition they are in as to the supplies of money for the providing of stores, and proceeding upon the repairs of his Majesty's ships, the Lord Brouncker³ informs their Lordships that they were at this day above £50,000 in arrear of their receipts upon the monthly payments promised them, and £10,000 upon their weekly. Whereof their Lordships determined upon taking notice to his Majesty at their next attending him.

Upon demand made by the Lords from the Officers of the Navy on that behalf, they declared that they had now received a full account from Sir John Narbrough of the state of his Majesty's ships in the Straits as to victuals and stores.

The company of the Norwich to be paid.

ORDERED, upon the King's pleasure therein signified by their Lordships, that two months' pay be granted to Captain Wood's company now going for the discovery of a N.E. Passage, whereof one month by way of gratuity and the other of advancement upon their future wages.

Mr. Pepys observes to their Lordships from a foreign *portato*⁴ that his Majesty's ship the Holmes appears to be

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2886.

² The Ruby, a 4th-rate, was often called the English Ruby, to distinguish her from the French Ruby, a 2nd-rate.

³ Comptroller of the treasurer's accounts.

⁴ See note on p. 199 above.

entered therein for 20 bales of cœna,¹ merchants' goods, brought in her to Livorne, of which notice is to be taken to the captain at his return.

Consideration of Mr. Wheeler's petition for allowances for supernumeraries deferred.

A petition being presented by Captain Pibus for an allowance of half-pay as master of the Royal Sovereign in the former Dutch war, and it being observed to their Lordships by the Secretary of the Admiralty that that establishment on which his said request is grounded restrains the same to the last war only,² their Lordships were pleased upon consideration thereof to forbear the present granting of the same, but in consideration of the equity of his pretences, and the good character given him by the Officers of the Navy, RESOLVED upon having the same laid before his Majesty in Council, in order to its being admitted there.

A petition being read from the company of the Phoenix, wherein they claim a share of the prize by them taken wherein there was gold and other things of value, and of which they complained of their being wrongfully deprived by their late commander Captain Watson, who died in the voyage, and Lieutenant How, who succeeded him in the command; ANSWERED, that that matter lay not before their Lordships, as being at this day depending before the Lords Commissioners for Prizes.

A petition being read from the company of the Vulture, lately lost at the Barbadoes, praying a removal of the stop put upon the payment of their wages by the Officers of the Navy until their Lordships should declare themselves satisfied with the said ship's company in relation to the loss of the said ship; their Lordships, upon informing themselves to their full satisfaction that the said loss did not arise from any failure in the said company or their officers, but from the most violent hurricane that has happened there for many years, in which not only most of the merchant-vessels then upon the coast were destroyed but his Majesty's ship Foresight, Captain Davies commander, driven to put to sea for her security also,³

¹ Possibly senna. ² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 147.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2878.

were pleased to order the wages of the said company to be no longer detained, but that no allowance should be made them for the loss of their clothes (which they also prayed) as being contrary to the practice of the navy, grounded upon the ill consequence it might have in tempting seamen to negligence in the saving of his Majesty's ships in case themselves should have no adventure going with his Majesty in the loss thereof.

Several demands by masters and merchants for passes examined, of which some rejected, and others, according to the proof of propriety, and conformities in other particulars to the rules established, admitted, and oaths taken thereon.

Several letters also read from ships abroad giving advice of their proceedings.

Their Lordships discoursing with the Officers of the Navy upon the present state of his Majesty's ships and stores, pressed them to the improving the season as far as may be in hastening the repair of the former as fast as they are enabled by money thereto, as also in the taking of their usual survey of his Majesty's said ships and stores in order to their making the like representation thereof to their Lordships which upon such surveys taken their Lordships have formerly received from them.

The report of the Officers of the Navy being read, touching his Majesty's storehouses at Harwich, the use whereof is desired by the late-established Company of the new Fishery, wherein the said Officers declare that the same may be without inconvenience granted, upon the terms of being kept by them and delivered back upon demand in good repair; their Lordships RESOLVED upon reporting the same to his Majesty with their opinion that it may be granted upon the terms so proposed by the said Officers.

Upon reading the said Officers' report in the case of Captain Waltham,¹ touching the points wherein he has not come up to the full observation of the Lord High Admiral's Instructions in his late command of the Deptford ketch, his failures wherein appear equally if not more excusable than several of those whose omissions his Majesty hath been pleased to [remit, his Majesty hath

¹ See 4th March.

been pleased to] RESOLVE upon his being excused for the same, and he put into a condition of receiving his wages.

Several references from the Council Board about passes read, and reports ordered thereon.

A report read from the Officers of the Navy, touching the account which they have received from Major Beckford upon the points wherein their Lordships had some time since,¹ at the instance of Mr. Speaker, directed satisfaction to be demanded from him about the qualities, sorts, and values of clothes by him issued to the King's ships, of which their Lordships determining to have a copy sent to Mr. Speaker, the Officers of the Navy informed them that it had been already given him.

Their Lordships being importuned by Bartrum of Woolwich for satisfaction pretended to be yet denied him in the matters of difference formerly happening between him and Mr. Bodham, clerk of the ropery there, the report of the Officers of the Navy to their Lordships in that case was read, and RESOLVED, That the same ought to be held satisfactory to the said Bartrum.

The application of Mr. Finch, a merchant, for a pass for his ship the Parrot not to be granted until she had been regularly surveyed.

A pass being demanded for a Scotch prize, the St. Mark, some of the owners were ordered to attend to give further information.

Their Lordships enquiring of Mr. Pepys what course had been taken for the making a proper provision for Sir John Narbrough's fleet for defraying the whole charge of it, were shewn that a distinct provision was made for the same in the project for the present year's service, over and above the ordinary summer and winter guards.

The Lord Privy Seal entering upon discourse touching the state of the moneys arising from the Wine Act,² and the debt of the navy assigned thereon, which remains at this day unsatisfied, and for which many of the interested in the said debt are said to complain of their non-payment ;

¹ 4th March.

² The Wine Act of 1668 (19 & 20 Car. II. c. 6) was for raising £310,000 by an imposition upon wines and other liquors. This was assigned by the Act to defray 'the charge and expense of setting out an extraordinary fleet to sea.'

their Lordships were pleased to ORDER, that the Comptroller of the Navy¹ be in particular to charge himself with the enquiring into and reporting the state of that whole matter, in order to their Lordships being enabled to do what they shall judge further becoming them in behalf of the navy creditors concerned in the same.

MAY 20, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Chancellor; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Arlington; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker.]

His Majesty was pleased to enquire touching the disposal of the Hunter, wherewith he hath determined upon accommodating the Guinea Company upon the terms in the minutes of the 29th April last, commanding that the same shall be done with no time lost therein.

Mr. Pepys informing their Lordships in what he had done in causing a French privateer called the *Revenge* of Calais to be stopped in the Downs,² upon information given him (since their Lordships' last meeting) by Captain Clements from thence of the said caper's having taken a flyboat called the *Prosperous*, belonging to his Majesty's subjects, notwithstanding the said flyboat's shewing him his Majesty's pass; his Majesty and their Lordships were pleased to approve of what Mr. Pepys had done therein, and further ordered the said caper to be brought up into the River by the Marshal of the Admiralty to answer for his said misbehaviour, upon the examinations first taken of the master of the said flyboat, as also that his Majesty's ships as they come in be directed to cruise in the Channel and bring in all French and Spanish privateers, in order to his subjects having opportunity thereby of demanding and receiving satisfaction from any injuries suffered from them. Towards the more effectual doing whereof, the Secretary of the Admiralty gave his Majesty and their Lordships a particular account of what

¹ Sir Thomas Allin.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2906, 2923, 2940.

ships of the King's were then in the Downs and near home for the answering of this service, in order to their judging of the sufficiency of the same for that occasion, and which were accordingly judged sufficient for the same.

Report from the Officers of the Navy read and approved, for the forbidding the allowance of any extraordinary charge for pilots upon 6th-rates, his Majesty and their Lordships confirming the resolution heretofore taken for all commanders of 6th-rates (forasmuch as they are reputed masters as well as commanders) to pass the examination of Trinity House before they be held capable of the said command.

Mr. Speaker¹ moves (by way of complaint) the inconvenience he suffers by the present rule of the Exchequer which makes the passing the accounts of an old Treasurer necessary before a new one can be discharged of his. The remedying whereof my Lord Treasurer was pleased then to say was a matter now depending before him.

His Majesty was pleased to direct Mr. Speaker to find some way that might be least inconvenient in the precedent of it to pay the sum of money some time since² given by his Majesty to Captain Tyrwhitt.

Consideration being had of the case of Nowell, whose pay as a seaman is³ found allowed to the Treasurer, Sir Thomas Littleton,⁴ and yet no satisfaction given by him, either that it was paid at all, or to whom if at all—much less either to the said Nowell⁵ (who dying abroad could not receive it), or to anybody else in right of him, while his widow and family are said to be in danger to perish for want of it; ORDERED, that the consideration of this particular case, and what ought equitably to be demanded, and by the practice of the navy has been heretofore judged so, between his Majesty and the Treasurer of the Navy in the general case of mispayments of this kind, so as right may be done to the seamen serving, was referred to the Officers of the Navy, who are to make their report to their Lordships therein.

¹ The Speaker, Edward Seymour, had succeeded Osborne as treasurer of the navy in June 1673.

² See 18th March.

³ MS. 'if.'

⁴ Sir Thomas Littleton, afterwards victualling contractor, had been joint treasurer of the navy 1668–71.

⁵ MS. 'Nevill.'

Mr. Secretary Coventry tendering to his Majesty the draught of a proclamation suitable to what has heretofore been published in order to the keeping of the peace within his Majesty's seas, the same was read, and ORDERED to be by him presented to his Majesty in Council for confirmation.

The case of Mr. Curtis, relating to his claim to the Fox sloop some time since brought into the River as a privateer, referred to the Judge of the Admiralty.

His Majesty is pleased to approve of the report made him by my Lords touching the loan of his storehouses to the Company of the Fishery, according to their Lordships' resolution the 6th instant; and ORDERED the same to be put in execution.¹

Mr. Secretary Coventry was ordered by his Majesty to dispatch away his intended letter to Tripoli.

RESOLVED, at Mr. Speaker's motion, that the stop which for some time has been put to the payment of the balance of pursers' accounts, in order to his making some enquiries therein, was withdrawn.

MAY 27, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Finch's application for a pass for the Parrot,² and also for the St. George, refused by the Lords.

Their Lordships being applied to in behalf of the master attendants of his Majesty's several yards, as well for their satisfaction for the arrear due to them for their coats out of the Wardrobe as the due allowance and payment thereof for the future, the consideration thereof was respited till my Lord Treasurer should be present.

His Majesty being moved from the Guinea Company that he would be pleased to accommodate the said Company with the loan of a sloop in company with the Hunter, they indemnifying his Majesty in the whole

¹ MS. 'examination.'

² See 6th May.

charge thereof, his Majesty was pleased to grant the same.¹

Request being presented to the Board from Mr. Neale, postmaster at Deal, for consideration for his charge and labour in the lists daily sent by him hither of his Majesty's ships in the Downs,² the same was denied, further than what he shall shew to have been heretofore allowed to any of his predecessors in that behalf.

Report being read from the Officers of the Navy touching the failures of Captain Wetwang³ in his compliance with the Lord Admiral's Instructions as late commander of his ship the Newcastle, his Majesty was pleased to direct that the same be remitted to him, but so as that he should have a reprehension from their Lordships for so much thereof as particularly relates to his failure in his musters and journals.⁴

Mr. Pepys informing the Board that several cases were depending before it by petition wherein a seaman, who by deserting his Majesty's service in a second ship and is contented to sit down by the loss of his wages earned therein, complains of our exacting from him the forfeiture of his wages which is due to him for service well earned in a former ship, and it being in his opening thereof observed how much on one hand his Majesty's service will be liable to desertion should seamen be liable to no other forfeitures for it than for the few days he shall spend upon a ship before he find opportunity of running away from it, and what hardship it will be thought on the other hand to the seamen if, for the want of the regular payment which seamen anciently had in the navy when the annual service thereof was divided into a summer and winter guard and the wages earned therein cleared at the expiration of each 6 months, a seaman shall be kept unpaid (as sometimes we have known them) for 2 or 3 years or more, and upon being still transferred to another ship shall forfeit his said three years' wages upon his making an escape on shore only to look out for the payment of his said arrears towards the support of his necessitous family, with purpose of returning voluntarily

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2946, 2962.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2595. ³ See *D. N. B.*, lx. 388.

⁴ *Margin* : ' Captain Wetwang's pay.'

again to his Majesty's service, as most of those in the cases now mentioned appear to have done; It was ORDERED, That it should be referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider what may be a reasonable rule to be established herein, so as may best ease the seamen from this appearing hardship with least exposal [of] his Majesty's service to the injury above-mentioned attending the same.

ORDERED, upon the request of Mr. Grill, that allowance be made him of victuals as well as wages during the time for which wages was lately ordered¹ to be allowed him for his service on the galley at Tangier.

JUNE 3, 1676

[At the Council Chamber. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Finch² again refused a pass for the Parrot, but the Lords resolve to report favourably to his Majesty in respect of the St. George.

Their Lordships being acquainted with Sir Robert Robinson's seizure of a French caper,³ pursuant to his Majesty's late resolutions for the same⁴; their Lordships do approve thereof.

Mr. Secretary Coventry ordered to have a memorial given him about Captain Clements's caper⁵ and the Hamburger.

JUNE 10, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Arlington; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain. Navy Officers attending.]

Several merchants praying that they may have liberty given them against the caper which seized the Prosperous flyboat,⁶ mentioned the 20th of May; ORDERED, that both the commander of the said vessel and the vessel

¹ 29th April.

² See 27th May.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2951.

⁴ *Ib.*, Nos. 2976, 2981.

⁵ See 15th April.

⁶ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2940, 2961, 3035.

itself be delivered over to the prosecution of the said parties injured, in order to their satisfaction for the injuries so by them sustained, care being taken for the continuing the detention of such of his Majesty's subjects as shall be found to have served on board the said caper until further order.

Sir Robert Robinson's report read, of the injury done to a vessel of Dover by a caper, which caper is ordered to be detained, and advices from day to day published of what capers are brought in, in order to reparation to be demanded from them for any injuries which shall appear to have been by them done to any of his Majesty's subjects.¹

An account being given of a crew of rogues running away with the shallop of his Highness Prince Rupert,² offering several injuries and committing robberies (as is said) amongst the River and places near it, and their being apprehended at Sandwich; ORDERED, that these their villainies be put into a way of proof, and they brought to trial for the same.

Several letters read, and one particularly from Captain Hamilton about the present state of his Majesty's galley³ and her company at Tangier.

Navy Officers' report allowed of, touching Mr. Crispin's being entertained in the place of clerk of the check at Kinsale in Ireland,⁴ vacant by the late death of Mr. Penn, with the abatement of salary proposed by the said Officers during peace.

An account given of some undue passes issued by the Mayor and officers of the Vice-Chamberlain⁵ at Plymouth; RESOLVED, that the vessels interested in the said passes be stopped, and the officers concerned in the granting them called to account for the same.

Captain Royden being called in, received a public reprehension for the failures reported by the Officers of the Navy chargeable on him in his compliance with the Lord Admiral's Instructions, but for this time for-

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2995.

² See *ib.*, No. 3008.

³ Captain Hamilton had been appointed to command the Margaret galley, 18th June, 1675.

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2904, 2919.

⁵ Can this be a mistake for 'Vice-admiral'?

given him upon promise of his being more circumspect in his observation thereof in any further command.¹

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck applying himself to the Board, praying exemption from the payment of the customs demanded from him at Tangier for the victuals provided by him² and sent thither for the use of his Majesty's galley there, and the Officers of the Navy acknowledging that in the price given by contract to the [said] Sir Thomas Clutterbuck no consideration was had to the charge of the customs of his provisions in case the same should be demanded of him ; It was RESOLVED, that he should be exempted therefrom.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck praying also at the same time passes for several doggers of his own by him employed in the transportation of victuals to Malta for the use of his Majesty's ships, which doggers he makes appear to have been prizes of his Majesty by him duly bought ; ORDERED, that upon proof of his having regularly passed the freedom due to the said vessels as prizes, passes should be granted for the same.

Upon application made by Jones and Boatman for the view of some ships' books in order to their discovering of frauds therein (according to their former pretences in like case) ; ORDERED, that they be permitted to view the said books, with the necessary cautions to be had therein, and only in the presence of an Officer of the Navy.³

Old Mr. Shish's request granted for his being allowed the use of a boat of his Majesty's to attend him in the execution of his duty as shipwright at Sheerness, provided (as he proposes) the same cost not his Majesty any other charge than that of 20s. per annum for keeping her in repair.

¹ Captain Charles Royden had been appointed, 12th September, 1674, to command the *Guernsey* ; but she appears to have been recently paid off.

² Sir Thomas Clutterbuck was victualler for the Mediterranean.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2977.

JUNE 26, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

His Majesty's pleasure being demanded, upon application made to that purpose on behalf of the privateers which now are and hereafter shall happen to be detained by virtue of his Majesty's late resolution to that purpose, how long detention shall suffice for the satisfying his Majesty in their not being chargeable with any injury done his subjects, it was upon debate RESOLVED, that such privateers against whom no complaint shall be exhibited within 7 days after the detention thereof shall be made public, shall, both vessels and company, be at the expiration of the said 7 days discharged, and the Secretary of the Admiralty is ordered, upon application on that behalf, to issue orders accordingly.

His Majesty declaring his purpose of sending a man-of-war some time hence to Virginia, so [soon] as he shall have any further intelligence concerning the state of the disorders at this day in that colony,¹ and receiving from Mr. Pepys an account of the ships now abroad near home, and what may be next expected home from the Straits; ORDERED, that the condition of the Diamond for that voyage be inquired after, or what other ships likely to come home may be thought fitter for the same.²

Sir Robert Robinson having detained 2 privateers of Ostend—as having no due commission to authorise their proceedings (inferring the same from their being of Ostend and their pretended commissions and orders wrote in French); ORDERED, That forasmuch as French is the language wherein the commissions or orders of that place do regularly run, and no complaints being brought against the said 2 vessels, they are forthwith discharged.³

Sir Robert Robinson to have liberty 'to go out to meet with some privateers of Dunkirk which he hath been informed to be coming abroad from thence with design of affronting his Majesty's ships now in cruising.'

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xxv.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3006. ³ See *ib.*, No. 3009.

Memorials being read by Mr. Secretary from several foreign ministers complaining that the ships which for some time have been in this River belonging to the King of Sweden's subjects are now in fitting forth by the Swedish Ambassador, and near being ready to sail in quality of men-of-war, officered and manned for the greatest part with his Majesty's subjects; RESOLVED, that order be given for the taking the sails from the yards of each of the said ships,¹ and to the Governors of Gravesend and Sheerness for the stopping their departure out of the River until further order; and that Mr. Pepys do speedily send some person to view and make true report to his Majesty of the truth of each ship's present condition for sailing.

JULY 1, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Chamberlain; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty was pleased to recommend to the Officers of the Navy to consider what may be the readiest ship with least charge to be sent to Virginia,² and what number of men may be needful only for the sailing her, that so what landmen shall be sent with her may be spared on shore as his service may require it.

His Majesty having been lately at Chatham,³ and in his passage visited the river of Burnham in Essex, from whence he hath since been presented with a petition in the name of the free fishery of that river, complaining of their being imposed upon to their great damage by my Lord FitzWalter,⁴ to which is added the consideration of his taking to himself the entire jurisdiction of that river, to the prejudice of his Majesty's title to the same in case his service shall call for the use thereof for the reception of his Majesty's ships, which his Majesty upon his said view of it seems to think may be of great importance to him, which petition his Majesty is pleased this day to bring to the Lords; It was RESOLVED, That a Court of Vice-Admiralty be ordered with all convenient

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3002.

² See 26th June.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2982.

⁴ See *ib.*, Nos. 3159, 3184, 3722, and note to No. 3159.

speed at Burnham for the enquiring into the matters complained of in the said petition, and the title of my Lord Fitz-Walter to the said jurisdiction.

A report being read from the Officers of the Navy upon the matter lately referred to them from my Lords touching the allowance reasonably to be made to Mr. Robert Wright,¹ a counsellor-at-law for his Majesty in causes arising between his Majesty and others within the cognisance of the Officers of the Navy, the same was approved of, and order given for its being put in execution.

An account being given his Majesty of the survey newly taken by the Marshal of the Admiralty of the Swedish ships said to be fitting forth in this River, according to the memorial mentioned thereof the 26th June last, by which it appears that there was no occasion for the said memorial; RESOLVED, that the embargo laid on the said ships be immediately taken off and their sails returned them.

Officers of the Navy their report being read touching the petition of the boatswain[s] of the 6th-rates for their being allowed servants, and consideration had thereof; RESOLVED, that the said petition is not fit to be granted.

The Navy Officers desiring direction about the pay to be allowed to Captain Carlo² for the time he commanded the galley at Tangier between the death of Sir John Duteil and Captain Hamilton's entry on her; RESOLVED, That he be allowed as captain of a 4th-rate.

Upon consideration had of the present number of men allowed to the Greyhound and Drake during their present employment against the privateers; RESOLVED, that they be raised to the complements appointed for those ships for foreign service in time of peace.

Major Beckford's petition being read, praying payment of the moneys detained from him by his Majesty upon the suggestions of Jones and his company, he the said Major Beckford shewing the report which has been produced from his auditors in the Court of Exchequer declaring him not chargeable as debtor with any moneys by him received from his Majesty as slopseller of the

¹ Possibly Sir Robert Wright, afterwards chief justice of the king's bench, who presided at the trial of the seven bishops in 1688.

² *Margin* : 'Curlo'; see p. 266 above.

navy, the answering his said petition was respited till my Lord Treasurer should be present.

Mr. Idle attending the Board with general complaints of rights denied him by his Majesty's Commissioners for his Admiral's Rights; ORDERED, That he present their Lordships with an account of those particulars wherein he would be thought to have wrong done him and desires relief.

JULY 8, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty taking into consideration the case of a sloop of Ostend which had for some time been detained in the Downs without any complaint brought in against her from any of his Majesty's subjects; ORDERED, That upon her commander's petitioning to be discharged, with an acknowledgment therein of his error in not striking to his Majesty's flag, he shall be discharged.

ORDERED also, that upon the master of the other sloop (in like manner detained) his depositing of £10 for answering the damages charged upon him to that value to have been by him done to a vessel of his Majesty's subjects, without other complaint brought against him, he also be discharged.

Samuel Johnson, boatswain of the Hunter, complaining against Captain Dickenson, his commander,¹ of several injuries received from him, and particularly of his being beaten by him, and his Majesty and their Lordships being upon examination satisfied in the misbehaviour of the said boatswain, and especially towards his said commander, as well as his general disobedience to command; RESOLVED, That the said boatswain be discharged of his employment, forfeit his wages for deserting his ship without leave while she was fitting for the sea, and that his said captain be indemnified

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2994, 3026.

in his behaviour towards his boatswain, saving in that of beating of him, as being a proceeding against an under-officer not consistent with the discipline of the navy, of which, and their Lordships' resentment of it, he is to have notice given him. RESOLVED also, that advice be sent to the Guinea Company of the ship's readiness to enter into their service and charge.

Application being made to my Lords on behalf of his Majesty's ordinary at Sheerness, and particularly the fireship which lies in constant service full-manned there, that they may be at liberty to contribute their groats¹ toward the encouragement of the chaplain belonging to the fort on shore to take the charge of the said ordinary, and officiate as chaplain to the ships on float ; RESOLVED, that their request be granted them, provided it be first known how far the said chaplain will oblige himself to take the care of, perform his holy office of praying and preaching to, the same.

Report being read from the Officers of the Navy touching Captain Country's failures in complying with the Lord Admiral's Instructions as commander of the Roebuck, and his said failures appearing not more blameable than what his Majesty has been pleased to remit to others ; ORDERED, that the same be excused to him, and he made capable of receiving his wages.

ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do give Mr. Secretary Williamson an attested copy of the account given by the Marshal of the Admiralty of the state of the Swedish ships in the River mentioned the 1st instant.

A bill of charges being presented to the Board by the chamber-keeper of the Robes for his expenses in firing, besides his extraordinary attendance upon the meetings of the Admiralty there ; ORDERED, that the same be satisfied him, and made up [to] the sum of £10.

Mr. Secretary Williamson moves for the King's allowance of the passes granted to the ships gone to Newfoundland without any ; Which his Majesty was pleased to approve of.

The Lord Treasurer moves for a boat to be appointed for the use of the Commissioners of the Customs which

¹ On the method of the seamen's contribution to a chaplain, see Hollond, *Discourses of the Navy* (N.R.S., vii.), p. 152 n.

is said to remain at this day unemployed by the navy. The truth of which in fact, and charge of fitting the said boat (if true), is referred to the Officers of the Navy.

My Lord Treasurer does also at the same time take notice of his having been applied to for the payment of the wages of 4 commanders whose wages appear, by letter to his Lordship from the Officers of the Navy, to be denied the payment of for want of their having given an account of their compliance with the Lord Admiral's Instructions. Wherein the proceedings of the said Officers is approved, and the said stop ordered to be continued.

Mr. Tyler, master of a merchantman, to be sent for in custody to answer for not striking to the Cleveland yacht.

The Lady Duteil¹ petitioning that the payment of her late husband's wages may be partly ordered her, without obliging her to stay for that in common with the rest of the money due to her upon the balance of her late husband's accounts; ORDERED, that the value thereof may be distinguished from the rest, and paid her by weekly proportions out of the £500 per week allotted for payment of tickets.

Major Beckford's petition mentioned the 1st instant read, and he is ordered to apply himself to the Lord Treasurer.

A petition of the ropemakers of his Majesty's yard at Woolwich being read, praying payment of wages now in arrear to them, my Lord Treasurer informs his Majesty that that yard is in no worse condition than any of the rest, and that he is at this time sending down a quarter's pay to every of them.

The like petition being read for the Navy yacht, now much in arrear, his Majesty and my Lords are pleased to refer it to my Lord Treasurer to pay her up to the rest,² and all of them to be even to one day.

Their Lordships moving his Majesty to the consideration of the general state of his ships wanting repair, and reminding the report thereof from the Officers of the Navy presented to his Majesty and referred to the Lord Treasurer by his Majesty in March last,³ his

¹ On Sir John Duteil, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, ii. 207 n.

² *I.e.*, to the rest of the yachts.

³ See 4th March.

Lordship was pleased to assure him and their Lordships that he had made as full provision towards the doing thereof as the state of his treasure would admit ; my Lords also mentioning again his Majesty's undertaking to the Parliament for the making good of the repairs without any aid insisted upon from them for the same, and repeating also to the Officers of the Navy the direction given them by their Lordships in May last ¹ for the preparing their annual survey and representation of the present state of his ships and stores.

A shallop ORDERED to be built for his Highness Prince Rupert, in the room of that lately carried away and broke in landing by the persons mentioned 10th June.

Motion being made about discharging the debt remaining still unsatisfied for the sick and wounded seamen within the last war, the same was referred to the consideration of my Lord Treasurer, and the care committed to the Secretary of the Admiralty of proposing a method for the regular and speedy examining and passing the accounts of the commanders ² and officers employed therein.

JULY 13, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

His Majesty being this day pleased to take into consideration some complaints lately made of the Algereens carrying in ships of his subjects,³ and the suspicion thereupon grounded of their purpose of violating the peace with us, and his Majesty in consequence thereof determined upon sending orders to Cadiz to stop Sir John Narbrough's coming home, to require him to return to Algier for obtaining satisfaction for the wrongs so suggested to be by them newly offered us ; Mr. Secretary Coventry did by his Majesty's command read the draught of a letter by him prepared to be sent on that behalf,

¹ See 6th May.

² Possibly written in error for 'commissioners.' In rough notes the same abbreviation would be used for both words.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3036.

which was concluded on, and Mr. Pepys directed to prepare orders relating to the navy consonant thereto.¹

JULY 15, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

His Majesty having an account given him of the covenant entered into by the Guinea Company under their seal for their taking his ship the Hunter into their charge, and therein it being observed by Mr. Pepys that they entitled themselves thereto not from her being put into their hands at Sheerness (as was first intended) but from her coming into the Downs, his Majesty was pleased to allow of the same, as also of each of the proposals which Mr. Pepys had received from them of the instructions they desire the captain of the said ship may have from his Majesty in favour of the service for which they borrow the same, which proposal[s] of instructions being distinctly read were agreed to. ORDERED also, at the request of Captain Dickenson, her said commander, [that he] may have leave given him of sending his ship into the Downs with what speed he can (in order to the putting her out of his Majesty's charge) under the care of his lieutenant and master, and that himself may thereupon be allowed his desire of repairing to town for a few days to settle his private affairs here.² RESOLVED also, that Captain Dickenson be strictly prohibited in his instructions the carrying or suffering to be carried any private trade on board his ship, the Company having intimated of making him and his ship's company compensation otherwise for the same.

The Bristol appointed for Virginia.³

A boat ordered to Sir Charles Littleton⁴ for the

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3042.

² See *ib.*, No. 3050.

³ See *ib.*, Nos. 3033, 3071, 3079.

⁴ On Sir Charles Lyttelton or Littleton, governor of Harwich and Landguard fort, see *D. N. B.*, xxxiv. 367.

service of Landguard Fort,¹ and another for Gravesend at the motion of his Highness Prince Rupert. Which being opened by the Secretary of the Admiralty as a charge not anciently borne by the navy, and for which at this time no proper provision is made in the ordinary thereof, It was nevertheless judged to be now necessary, and the charge thereof not so properly to be borne anywhere else as in the navy.

Sir Robert Robinson² advertising from the Downs that several of his Majesty's subjects are found serving in the privateers now brought in; RESOLVED, that the same may be delivered over to the Admiralty to be tried for the same.

The charges of the Marshal of the Admiralty allowed, for visiting the Swedish ships.

The Officers of the Navy informing his Majesty that the officers of the ordinary do not, according to appointment, comply as they ought to do in their lodging by turns, two at a time, constantly on board his Majesty's ship[s] in harbour, the censuring of them for the same was respited till they were heard in what they had to offer towards their justification therein.

Mr. Pepys acquaints their Lordships with the Order of Council lately brought for their granting passes to 3 doggers bound upon the fishery to Holy Island, upon³ bond given for their delivering up their said passes again and their being employed upon no other service than that of the fishery.

Upon Sir Robert Robinson's report from the Downs of the mutinous proceedings of the company of the Prosperous merchantman against their master,⁴ Their Lordships were satisfied that the master had done his part towards his men, and that, instead of granting the men's petition praying their being discharged from the ship and the master compelled to pay them their wages, they deserved to be punished for their mutiny.

A petition of Sir Nicholas Armourer's being read, touching Sir Edward Spragge's contract made in his

¹ *Margin* : 'Langarford.'

² Commander-in-chief in the Downs.

³ MS. 'aboard.'

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3045.

lifetime with his Majesty for building of ships in Ireland, in which contract the said Sir Nicholas Armourer being concerned desires to be discharged thereof, and relieved against the damages by him already sustained by his Majesty's non-performance of covenants on his part ; ORDERED, that the consideration thereof be respited till my Lord Treasurer be present.

Captain Tyler, master of the merchantman against whom Captain Pinn¹ complained for his not striking to his Majesty's yacht (*vide* the 8th instant) appearing this day, and pleading his having struck his topsails as soon as with safety he could, with an assurance that his delay therein did in no wise arise from any neglect or contempts, and therefore hoping his Majesty's pardon ; his Majesty was pleased to declare him excused, upon paying the gunner of the yacht for shot.

Mr. Pepys taking notice to his Majesty and my Lords of the many applications for relief made by poor maimed seamen beyond what the vacancies arising in the employment of cooks (reserved only for maimed men) and the present establishment for bearing them proportionably upon his Majesty's ships of the several rates employed at sea, and therefore humbly moving that some other means of providing for them may be found out, and particularly that of preferring them before others to vacancies in hospitals and almshouses falling within his Majesty's gift ; their Lordships were pleased to excite his Majesty thereto, and himself graciously to promise the giving order that upon all such furtherances² notice should be given to the Lords of the Admiralty for the bestowing them to maimed seamen accordingly.

* JULY 22, 1676

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty having been pleased to move the request of the Governor of Dover that he may have liberty of wearing his Majesty's jack upon his private yacht, and

¹ Commander of the Cleveland yacht.

² Sources of help.

the practice and rule of the navy being opened by the Secretary of the Admiralty therein, and the manifold consequences that will attend the dispensing therewith, his Majesty was pleased to declare that the same should not be granted.

The draught of the instructions prepared in pursuance of his Majesty's and their Lordships' resolutions of the 15th instant for the commander of the Hunter, in compliance with the desires of the Guinea Company in their proposals at that time read, being now tendered by Mr. Pepys, and the same upon reading largely debated with respect to the pretences of the gentlemen in the West upon his late Majesty's charter, and the consequences thereof in case any acts of violence should be committed upon any of his Majesty's subjects by virtue of the said instructions; his Majesty was pleased to conclude that the said instructions were indispensably necessary to be given, unless the present Royal Company and their trade by virtue of his charter were to be delivered up, and that therefore the same should be ingrossed fair for his signature, giving the Secretary of the Admiralty express order to see the same forthwith done accordingly.

A proposal presented to his Majesty by Mr. Gaudy of an invention for blowing up of ships being read, was found vain, and rejected.

Application being made to his Majesty and my Lords by some of the ships' company lately come home who were employed in the late action at Tripoli for the reward promised them from his Majesty, over and above the ten pieces of $\frac{8}{8}$ ¹ per man given them upon the place by Sir John Narbrough; his Majesty was graciously pleased to grant, that in consideration of the extraordinary service, each seaman who received 10 pieces of $\frac{8}{8}$ present reward (as before) should have a further gratuity here of £10 per man, with the like sum to the officers and all others employed in the same action in proportion to the number of the pieces of $\frac{8}{8}$ given them by Sir John Narbrough, as £10 is to 10 pieces, With a medal to Lieutenant Cloudisly Shovell, and what further reward to the officers his Majesty shall hereafter think fit.

¹ Pieces of eight were Spanish dollars.

ORDERED, That the master of the *Henrietta*, lately come home from the Straits, be forthwith committed to the Marshal of the Admiralty in order to his answering at a court-martial¹ for his running the said ship on ground in her late coming home.

His Majesty's pleasure being asked touching the dispensing with the late rule to a Quaker by which every master of a ship demanding a pass is obliged to make oath to the propriety of his ship and other circumstances leading to the granting of a pass; his Majesty was pleased to declare that the same should not be dispensed with.

JULY 29, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

A bailiff² being brought before his Majesty and the Lords for arresting one Rogers, belonging to the Harwich hoy at Deptford, and pleading in his justification that he knew not of Rogers's relation to his Majesty's service, but on the contrary that he had offered the said Rogers 10 hours to bring any evidence thereof, he at that time pretending to him such relation, and therefore praying his Majesty's pardon for his error, and offering to do his best for the finding out the party at whose suit the said Rogers was arrested; his Majesty was pleased, upon that submission and his aforesaid promise, to pardon him.

The Bristol to be forthwith refitted for a voyage to Virginia.³

Upon hearing the several allegations brought by some of the officers of the ordinary at Chatham in excuse for their absence at a late general call of the clerk of the check, for which they were all suspended by Sir Richard Beach,⁴ his Majesty and their Lordships were pleased to remit their said absence, they promising to be very

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3100.

² MS. 'bayley.'

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3071, 3079.

⁴ Resident commissioner of the navy at Chatham. See also minute of 15th July.

diligent in the giving their due attendance on board their ships by their weekly turns, according to order.

Sir John Berry¹ having brought in a vessel to Plymouth (where she now is) which fired at him at sea, refusing to strike to his Majesty's flag upon pretence (as he since affirms) of his suspecting his Majesty's said ship to be Dutch; ORDERED, That Dr. Lloyd² be consulted touching the same as to the clearing of the vessel and her company, detaining only the commander for satisfaction to his Majesty for the said affront.

Major Beckford's two petitions being read, with the report of the auditors in his favour mentioned the 1st instant, suggesting that the money due to him from his Majesty lies in Mr. Speaker's hand, and is there stopped upon the score of Jones's informations against him in the Exchequer, Mr. Speaker shews that the money lies not in his hands, and that his opposing the payment thereof to the Major was not upon the account alleged, but his practices with pursers about clothes and other things issued contrary to rule under that title, and did therefore still insist, in right to his Majesty, upon his bringing in a perfect answer to the matters wherein the Lords of the Admiralty at his instance have formerly demanded an account satisfactory in from the said Major; which being accordingly thought convenient to be issued by my Lords, the said petitions were for this day dismissed.

The Officers of the Navy reporting the charge of fitting the boat proposed by my Lord Treasurer to be assigned for the use of the Commissioners of the Customs,³ the same was ORDERED to be done, and delivered to them accordingly.

My Lord Treasurer being present, the petition of Sir Nicholas Armourer⁴ lately read, touching Sir Edward Spragge's contract for building ships for his Majesty in Ireland, in which contract, and the damages pretended to be sustained therefrom by the contractors, Sir Nicholas Armourer is concerned, was read a second time, and as well the general subject of the said petition as the par-

¹ Commander of the Bristol; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3079.

² Surrogate to the judge of the admiralty.

³ See 8th July.

⁴ See 15th July.

ticular evidence of the truth of his pretended damages committed to the examination of his Lordship, from him to be reported back to his Majesty.

Upon application being made to his Majesty and my Lords by Mr. Fanshawe in behalf of one Mr. David Wilkinson, praying that the said Wilkinson may be allowed the pay of midshipman extraordinary on board his Majesty's ship the Foresight, as being placed on board the said ship at Jamaica in that quality by warrant from the Lord Vaughan, present Governor thereof, which proceeding of the said Governor's being opened by Mr. Pepys to be wholly irregular, and contrary to the rules of the navy, the said Wilkinson appearing never to have served his Majesty either as commander or lieutenant at sea; his Majesty and their Lordships were pleased to reject his request, as wholly unfit to be admitted.

AUGUST 3, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Letters being read by Mr. Pepys from the Consul of Argeir¹ [and] Captain Atkins, commander of the Quaker ketch, giving an account of the said ketch's being carried in thither by two ships of that place, wherein several things [are] observable of the failure of the said captain,² and particularly in that of his giving some just provocation to the Turks by being found with a Dutch ship under his convoy and with English colours flying in his company; the further consideration whereof his Majesty is pleased to refer to another time, and at present to command Mr. Pepys to discourse with the Officers of the Navy where Sir John Narbrough is to send in the several ships now coming home with him, as also about hastening forth the two galley-frigates now upon finishing, and dispatching away the Assurance, now ordered for the Straits in the room of the Adventure.

¹ Mr. Martin.

² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xxxviii.

AUGUST 5, 1676

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Arlington ; Lord Craven ; Lord Privy Seal ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Dr. Lloyd ¹ attending my Lords upon the business of the small vessel lately brought in by Sir John Berry, mentioned the 29th July, and opening by discourse the Ordinance of King John about the striking of the flag ² ; It was RESOLVED, that the vessel and her company be set at liberty, her master only being kept to answer for his contempt, either by public trial or otherwise as shall hereafter be thought fit.

An Order from the Council Table read, referring to their Lordships several petitions for passes, to be by them examined and their opinions thereon reported back to the Council.

The sentence of a court-martial ³ (whereof Sir John Berry was president) read and approved of, by which Pinder, gunner of the Diamond, was cleared of the charge brought against him of embezzling his Majesty's stores, and the master of the Henrietta for running her on ground condemned to six months' imprisonment.

Sir John Berry being called in, and moving for some money in part [payment] of the wages due to his company, now bound out to Virginia ; ORDERED, that 6 months pay be made to them before their departure, and that the supernumeraries above the number to be allowed her for that voyage be forthwith discharged.

Major Beckford's answer to the resolution of the Lords the 29th July last delivered in by him and put into the hands of Mr. Speaker, who promises to bring in his exceptions, particularly to the Major's own proceedings, without interesting him in the failures either of the King's commanders or pursers.

The Navy Officers making report of the carpenters of three of his Majesty's ships being acquitted at the

¹ MS. 'Floyd.'

² On the ordinance of 1201, see T. W. Fulton, *The Sovereignty of the Sea*, p. 6.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3099, 3100.

assizes at Maidstone of the embezzlements of stores charged upon them, giving it nevertheless as their opinion that Nathaniel Stafford, carpenter of the Victory, though the evidence would not cast¹ him, and nevertheless so much proved against him as may well deserve a severe reprehension before he be re-admitted to his place; which by his Majesty's command was accordingly given him in his Majesty's presence by the Lord Privy Seal.

ORDERED, upon the Navy Officers reporting their opinion touching the delivery of more ships' books to the auditors at the instance of Mr. Jones, that no more books be parted with to the auditors till some fruits be shewn of the overlooking of the St. George's book, in which particularly the said Mr. Jones promised the detecting of so great a number of frauds.

Samuel Johnson, late boatswain of the Hunter, mentioned the 8th of July last and discharged for his misbehaviours then expressed, making his application now to his Majesty and my Lords for payment of the wages due to him for his service in the said ship; RESOLVED, that for his faults, and more especially for his contempt of their Lordships' own order in his not returning to his ship after his deserting the same in disobedience to his captain's, he deserveth the loss of his wages as well as of his employment, and that the same be finally withheld from him accordingly.

Advice being given from Captain Coleman² at Plymouth of a ship of his Majesty's subjects lately carried into Calais³; ORDERED, That the letter advising the same be put into the hands of Mr. Secretary Coventry.

Navy Officers desiring directions whether the late chirurgeon of the galley at Tangier, who is a foreigner, may be entertained as such in one of the galley-frigates now fitting forth from hence; RESOLVED, that he may, in case he will pass the examination of our Chirurgeons' Hall.

His Majesty being acquainted that the rewards he was some time since⁴ pleased to appoint to the Commissioners for Widows and Orphans for their extraordinary

¹ Convict.

² Collector of customs at Plymouth.

³ MS. 'Calias.'

⁴ 6th February.

service during the late war remain to this day unpaid to them, his Majesty was pleased to order Mr. Speaker (who undertook the same) to find some speedy means of paying the same.

AUGUST 6, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Arlington; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

A letter to Mr. Secretary Coventry being read from Consul Martin at Argier dated 21st June, giving an account among other things of the Leopard merchant-man¹ being discharged by the help of some presents, and that the day after Sir John Narbrough was there with his ships, but could not prevent the carrying on shore of goods out of other ships; Upon which, and the consideration of other particulars in the said letter, as also that Sir John Narbrough will in all probability be come away from Cadiz homewards before his Majesty's order of the 10th and 14th of July for stopping and carrying him back to Algeir will arrive, It was RESOLVED by his Majesty, that though the present condition of his treasure will not allow of his coming to any immediate resolutions of war with that people, yet that it would be by no means convenient that the Straits should be left without any ships there, and that therefore in dependence of having the guard in the Downs very suddenly supplied by the ships coming home with Sir John Narbrough, the Assurance and Drake² should be forthwith called in from thence to Sheerness, to be there cleaned and victualled, and dispatched away for the Straits, with such instructions as, upon receipt of the letters from Sir John Narbrough now daily expected, shall be thought fitting; his Majesty further resolving that something should go from him in writing by Mr. Secretary Coventry to take notice to Argier of these their proceedings, after having first debated the same at the Council Table.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3036, 3087.

² See *ib.*, Nos. 3103, 3134.

AUGUST 12, 1676

[*Present*: Prince Rupert; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Arlington; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Upon a motion of my Lord Chamberlain, proposing that for the greater security of such of their Lordships as may be called on to sign passes without having opportunity of examining thoroughly and so informing themselves personally in all the points needful to be ascertained in the granting of a pass, the Secretary of the Admiralty may be authorised and commanded to countersign the said passes before they be offered to their Lordships to sign, as thereby charging himself with his having duly examined the same; the matter was after debate agreed upon, and he empowered and commanded to countersign the said passes accordingly before they be tendered to their Lordships.

ORDERED, That Monsieur Savière, youngest lieutenant, may be paid as eldest during the time that Carlo, his elder lieutenant, is paid as captain of the galley at Tangier.

ORDERED, That the several Greeks belonging to Tripoli which were sent to Tangier by Sir John Narbrough and employed as slaves there, be, upon their humble petition this day presented on that behalf, discharged.

A petition of Mr. Ruffhead, the anchorsmith at Chatham, for his having some old iron now lying useless in his Majesty's stores there, delivered to him from his Majesty, referred to the Officers of the Navy.

A petition being read from Mr. Poyntz, the tapestry man, praying a standing salary to be settled upon him upon the score of his being employed in the working of a suit of hangings historical of our late sea-fights, suitable to what his Majesty has been pleased to grant to the two Van de Velde¹ for their naval painting; the consideration thereof is respited till the Lord Treasurer shall be present.

¹ MS. 'Vandevelders.' On these see *D. N. B.*, lviii. 103.

Captain Waltham¹ to be allowed pay as a commander, from the date of his commission.²

Upon a petition of certain joiners belonging to Woolwich yard for their being eased of the stop long since put to the payment of their wages, upon a suspicion of embezzlement; RESOLVED, that their being so long kept without their wages may be thought a sufficient punishment for what they have done upon which the said suspension was grounded, and that therefore the stop of their said wages be now withdrawn.

The executor of Captain Dawson, late commander of the *Advice*, praying that he may receive the said Captain Dawson's wages, is answered, That he is not to expect the same until the said captain's right discharging of his duty in his executing the Lord High Admiral's Instructions be made to appear.

A petition being presented from Captain Wilgress, shewing his and his family's great distress and poverty by his long sickness, and praying some relief from his Majesty in consideration of his wounds received in his Majesty's service, and it being remembered that his arm was not lost in his Majesty's service and that his behaviour therein has been such as to cause him to be twice turned out of the same; His Majesty was pleased to declare him unfit to receive any consideration for his service as commander, but if upon advising with the Chirurgeon-General of the Fleet anything can by the rules of the navy be found due to him for his wounds received as a reformado³ under the Prince⁴ in the last Dutch war, that so much may be paid him and no more.

Captain Idle soliciting for the remainder of the money appointed him by his Majesty after Sir John Fowell's pretences for his and his officers' service about the ship *Bachelor* should be satisfied, and Sir John Fowell having entirely submitted himself to the pleasure of the Lords for what they shall think fit to allow him for his own pains and labour; his Majesty and their Lordships are pleased to RESOLVE, in favour to Captain

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 1913, 1916, 1919.

² 3rd November, 1674.

³ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 190 n.

⁴ James, Duke of York.

Idle,¹ that nothing be defalked from him in consideration of the said Sir John Fowell's pains, but that the same be added to the benefit of Captain Idle, his Majesty reserving the making amends to the said Sir John for the same to some other occasion.

AUGUST 19, 1676

[*Present* : The King ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Chamberlain ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty is pleased to declare his pleasure that the Drake be stopped in her present fitting for the Straits,² and that she be forthwith put into a condition of returning to her station to the Downs, for the guard of the Channel and suppressing the insolencies of the privateers.

Upon a motion made on behalf of Captain Hamilton, designed for the command of one of the new galley-frigates ; ORDERED, that in regard of his staying still abroad, and his being thereby hindered in his giving his personal attendance here and satisfying the Officers of the Navy in his compliance with the Lord Admiral's Instructions, his pay for the service in the Maryrose and Tangier galley may³ be paid to him now, with care to be taken for his being called to an account for his behaviour in the said 2 ships when he comes to demand wages for his service in that which he is now designed to.⁴

A letter from Sir Richard Rooth being read touching the present condition of his ship, the Adventure,⁵ his Majesty declares his purpose of calling her home, and sending the Assurance thither in her room.

The case of Metefoux⁶ the privateer to be referred to the Judge of the Admiralty.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3121, 3122.

² For the reason of this see *ib.*, No. 3134.

³ MS. 'made.'

⁴ Captain Thomas Hamilton's commission to command the Charles galley-frigate is dated 11th January, 1676-7.

⁵ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3305.

⁶ MS. 'Mettefue' ; *margin* : 'Mettefew' ; see *ib.*, Nos. 2996, 3008, 3148.

A second paper from Mr. Gaudy ¹ in defence of his invention for blowing up of ships read, and rejected as vain.

His Majesty being informed of Captain Idle's having formerly given out his purpose of prosecuting his Commissioners ² for £1500 damage, notwithstanding his Majesty's great bounty to him, is pleased to reject some applications by Captain Idle this day made, and to declare, That no further orders should be granted by him in his favour.

Several petitions this day about passes, whereof several refused, and others (whose ³ cases came within rule) granted.

Mrs. Staines, widow of his Majesty's late platerer ⁴ at Chatham, shewing her distressed estate and praying the payment of a postponed bill for the present support of her family, is denied, in consideration of the precedent to others in like case.

The like to the gunners of the 6th-rate ships praying to be borne in ordinary.

Leave granted to arrest Mr. Bunch the purser, upon the usual days given for his shewing a satisfactory reason why it should not.

A motion being made on behalf of Sir John Berry, ⁵ shewing his pretence to the pay of a flag-man, the stating and reporting the same to their Lordships is committed to Mr. Pepys.

AUGUST 26, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Ossory; Lord Treasurer; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Captain Wood, late commander of the *Speedwell*, and Captain Flawes in the adventurers' ⁶ ship the *Prosperous*, being returned from their attempt upon the discovery of a N.E. Passage, with the loss of his Majesty's

¹ See 22nd July.

² *I.e.*, the commissioners for the admiral's rights.

³ MS. 'whole.'

⁴ Perhaps a draughtsman.

⁵ *D. N. B.*, iv. 398.

⁶ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xxiv, note 11.

said ship off Nova Zembla, did this day attend their Lordships, and after giving an account of their proceedings by discourse were directed each of them to put the same in writing with as much exactness as they can and present the same to their Lordships. ORDERED also, that Captain Wood's men (which the pink saved and has brought home) be forthwith paid their wages, computing the same, out of his Majesty's great bounty to them, to the day of the payment thereof, but without any allowance for the loss of clothes, the discipline of the navy not allowing it, it being recommended in particular to the care of the Secretary of the Admiralty to be his Majesty's remembrancer in behalf of the officers of the said ship as vacancies of employment proper for them shall fall.

A report from the Officers of the Navy touching the ancient method of building boats for the use of his Majesty's forts upon the sea coasts, and how the same may most regularly be done—if to be brought to the charge of the navy—being read and debated, is confirmed, and ORDERED to be put in execution.

Sir John Berry declares himself ready within a few days of proceeding (if required) upon his intended voyage to Virginia, and his instructions thereupon ordered by his Majesty to be considered to-morrow at the Committee¹ for Foreign Affairs. ORDERED also, that the Little Spragge² be taken from her present service at Guernsey and Jersey and fitted for accompanying the Bristol, with a yacht to be employed in her room during her absence.

Sir John Berry's advice touching the state of Newfoundland,³ grounded upon his enquiries when he was there last, referred also to be considered at the said Committee to-morrow; and the account of his disbursements during his said voyage referred to the Officers of the Navy.

Mr. Pepys acquainting his Majesty and their Lordships with his delivering 20 blank passes to Mr. Secretary Coventry to be by him sent to my Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to be by him supplied to ships going to the

¹ MS. 'Court.'

² See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3155, 3169.

³ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xxiv, note 10.

Straits from that kingdom, the same was approved of as done in pursuance of a resolution taken for the same in Council.

A letter being read from Sir John Bramston¹ touching the Court of Vice-Admiralty to be held at Burnham pursuant to his Majesty's resolutions the 1st of July last ; RESOLVED, That the charge of the said Court, not exceeding the sum mentioned in his said letter, be borne by his Majesty, the occasion of it relating principally to his Majesty's service. RESOLVED also, that the former Register and Marshal of that Vice-Admiralty be permitted to exercise their places in this Court, notwithstanding their not having renewed their commissions for the same ; But that the several Vice-Admirals and their under-officers be again called upon to renew their commissions.

ORDERED, That Captain Lhostein² may have his Majesty's bounty as one employed in the service against Tripoli according to the general proportion formerly established by his Majesty in that particular.

Mr. Pepys reporting this day by order the state of Sir John Berry's pretences to the reputation of and allowance appointed to a flag-officer,³ and therein shewing that he had the command of 12 ships of war besides fireships in his Majesty's service at the Barbadoes, and that therefore he has a rightful claim to the allowance lately established in the case of Sir Robert Robinson ; the same was upon debate made to appear, and Sir John Berry ORDERED to have the same allowance granted him accordingly.

Lord Dungan⁴ to have passage on board the Assurance with Sir Robert Robinson to Cadiz.

Mr. Pepys to deliver 10 blank passes to the Duke of Lauderdale for Scotland.

A pass granted to a ship of Mr. Boneel's the merchant, by name the Martin, coming from Scanderoon.

¹ See *D. N. B.*, vi. 210.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3189. Captain Augustus Lhostein, commander of the *Antelope*, was probably a naturalised Swede. Charnock calls him Gustavus L'Holstein (*Biogr. Nav.*, i. 398).

³ See 19th August.

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3213, 3219. Lord Dungan was afterwards Earl of Limerick.

Upon a petition presented from the owners of the William of London, said to be lately taken out of the Road of Dover by a vessel of Dunkirk ; ORDERED, that a ship of his Majesty's be forthwith sent out of the Downs in order to the recovery of the said William if possible, and bringing in of the privateer.

AUGUST 27, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Arlington ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

ORDERED, That the Deptford ketch be forthwith fitted for the carrying the envoy from the Emperor of Muscovia,¹ and Mr. Hebdon whom his Majesty sends as his envoy thither, to the Neva² in the Baltic Sea.

RESOLVED also, That the Commissioners of the Customs be summoned to attend his Majesty here to-morrow for the discoursing what it is which his Majesty may think needful to ask for the preventing our ships receiving any further interruptions from the French capers, Monsieur Courtin, the French Ambassador, undertaking that any reasonable thing should be done by his master therein, if they could but be ascertained, of any method of distinguishing and knowing the ships which we would have treated as belonging to England.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1676

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Captain Bolland shewing that having been employed for some years as master attendant at Tangier by warrant from my Lord Middleton,³ and paid for the same to his death at the rate of 2s. 6*d.* per diem, praying for the payment of the remainder here ; the same is

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3155.

² MS. 'Nerve.'

³ Late governor of Tangier. He died in 1674.

by his Majesty and my Lords judged reasonable, but that he must be referred for his said payment to the Lords Commissioners for Tangier, from whence he had his said office and payment of what he has received.

A motion being made in behalf of Sir William Poole,¹ praying that [the loss of] his employment and the charge attending the same may be deemed by his Majesty sufficient punishment for his late error at the Barbadoes without exacting from him the forfeiture of his wages for his said voyage, and his Majesty being graciously disposed to the favouring of the said Sir William Poole so as may not be injurious to himself in the precedent of it ; It was ORDERED, that his wages heretofore condemned with his own consent for his said fault be by no means discharged of the said condemnation, but that a round sum near the value of his said wages be given him as of his Majesty's Royal bounty, in consideration of his several good service[s] and his disbursements not yet satisfied him in his former voyage to the West Indies.

Upon a petition presented from the Turkey Company, praying convoy to some ships of theirs now bound forth into the Straits ; ORDERED, That Sir Robert Robinson now in dispatching thither with the Assurance do take them into his convoy (in case they be ready to go along with him), with authority to command any fitting ship he shall meet with now coming home with Sir John Narbrough to return to the Straits with him for the sure convoying of the said merchantmen ; Where to the merchants seemed to depart with full satisfaction from his Majesty.

The Little Francis to be sent with the Muscovite envoy,² and the Deptford ketch, ' as the properest vessel for an advice boat,' to go to Virginia.

The Muscoviter and Mr. Hebdon before mentioned³ to have the allowance of the King's ordinary ship provisions given them and their company in their passage to the Neva,⁴ with some extraordinary supply

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 193-4 ; also *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 2533, 2551, 2552.

² See 27th August ; also *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3169.

³ 27th August.

⁴ MS. ' Nerve.'

of pepper, garlic, and brandy for the entertainment of the Muscoviter.

ORDERED, That the Deptford ketch do take in what she can of the small arms appointed for Virginia.

ORDERED, That the petition of Mrs. Knyvett, widow of the late Captain Knyvett,¹ that in case the said captain's wages were not condemned to the Chest at Chatham the same should be granted to her for the relief of herself and distressed family; But if the said wages were so condemned, she is not to expect any further consideration in her favour from his Majesty.

ORDERED, that the company of the Spragge have 6 months wages of what is due to them from his Majesty paid before their departure for the Neva.²

Upon his Majesty being informed from the Officers of the Navy of the great trouble and difficulty they have met with in the providing of a pilot for the carrying of his ship the Francis to the Neva²; RESOLVED, that from henceforth his Majesty's authority be not omitted to be used for the impresting of pilots where his service calls for them, as being a branch of his prerogative without the due asserting of which, and the putting it in execution, his service at sea can never be supported, and therefore by no means to be let fall where the same is called for.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Collins (late master of the Speedwell) his journal of his late unhappy voyage for discovery of a North-East Passage being presented to his Majesty, the same was approved of, and his wages ordered to be paid him for his said voyage.

Several letters read, and particularly from Captain Wyborne in the Pearl from Newfoundland, giving an account of his proceedings with the fishery there.

¹ Late commander of the Algier, a 5th-rate. Charnock (i. 87 *n*) credits him with being the first naval officer to adopt the device of disguising his ship to deceive the enemy. ² MS. 'Nerve.'

The new galley-frigate building at Woolwich¹ ordered to be launched on Tuesday next.

No more soldiers to be taken on board the Assurance for the service of Tangier than is already provided by Captain Mackenny² and Boynton, which are said to be about 50.

Upon a memorial now read from Monsieur Courtin, ORDERED, that a man-of-war be appointed out of the Downs to give convoy to some horses of the King of France's over to Calais.³

ORDERED, That Captain Beverly⁴ do proceed with the *bonavoglios*⁵ he has now with him at Marseilles⁶ to Livorne, the Navy Officers giving him credit for some money to enable him thereto.

ORDERED, That Sir John Berry have 6 months pay to himself, as his men have,⁷ notwithstanding his not being presently called to an account for his performance of the Lord Admiral's Instructions.

Upon second passes demanded where the first have missed of ships they were sent to, ORDERED, that the same may be granted upon good proof of the first having missed, and security given for their being delivered up within a reasonable time, without any other use made of them.

Mr. Pepys moving that the Argeriens may be acquitted for their answer to what Mr. Secretary Coventry says has been long time wrote to them about the adjusting the attestation in the clause for renewing of passes in a year, it was referred to Mr. Secretary to write again to Algeirs about it, for the removal of the inconveniencies his Majesty's subjects suffer from the want hereof, and Mr. Pepys was ordered to give Mr. Secretary a memorial thereof.

A petition being read from Yarmouth for the payment for some fireships taken up there for the use of his Majesty, to be employed against the Dutch, grounded

¹ The Charles. See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3197; see also *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 270, 272, and iii. pp. xlv and 273 n.

² MS. 'Makeny.' See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3204, 3206.

³ MS. 'Callis.' See *ib.*, No. 3202.

⁴ Commander of the Jacob dogger.

⁵ See note 4 on p. 279 above.

⁶ MS. 'Marceillis.'

⁷ See 5th August.

upon what his Majesty has been pleased to do in the like case for fireships bought by the Lord Brouncker¹; ORDERED, That the same be granted if the case of the present petitioners be in all respects the same as that of my Lord Brouncker's.

ORDERED, That Mr. Thierry² have a pass for his ship now coming from Amsterdam, upon bond given for her employing the same only in her passage hither and there delivering it up.

Nevell's petition denied for a pass for a ship going to Malaga,³ she being an unfree ship.

ORDERED, That the 3 Scotchmen who have been kept 3 months in custody by the Marshal of the Admiralty for their being found serving in a privateer be now discharged, they being very poor, and having suffered so long imprisonment.

His Majesty being applied to by some on behalf of the Turkey Company for an addition of convoy besides the Assurance⁴ for their ships bound to the Straits, ANSWERED, That so soon as he shall hear from Sir John Narbrough by the coming home of any part of his fleet, he hopes he shall be enabled to spare them another ship.

SEPTEMBER 16, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Duke of Lauderdale; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

ORDERED, That Mr. Pepys do give Mr. Secretary Williamson an account of the privateers brought in, in order to their being published in the *Gazette*.⁵

Mr. Pepys also is directed, at Mr. Secretary Williamson's motion, to inform himself in the present state of the managing of the Admiralties of Guernsey and Jersey, and particularly in relation to their granting of passes.

The warrant for Sir John Berry's allowance of half-

¹ *D. N. B.*, vi. 469.

² Mr. James Thierry, a London merchant; see *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3040, 3045.

³ MS. 'Malago.'

⁴ See 2nd September.

⁵ Cf. *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3231, 3258.

pay, upon the grounds mentioned in the 26th day of August last, read and approved.

The galley-frigate launched at Woolwich is to be called the Charles.

Notice being taken of the inconvenient standing of Sir Samuel Morland's pump¹ in Chatham yard without any use made thereof; ORDERED, That Sir Samuel Morland, together with the Navy Officers, do either cause the said pump to be put into order so as that the work expected from it in the keeping dry of the dock may be duly performed, or that upon want thereof the pump may be removed and the yard unencumbered by it; The Navy Officers being to see that Sir Samuel Morland's invention receive no unfair treatment herein.

Mr. Garland the tailor ORDERED to be brought from Tangier to Plymouth, to be thence disposed of as his Majesty shall direct.²

Pottinger's petition brought by his Grace the Duke of Ormonde for a pass for a ship of Ireland granted, and Mr. Secretary Coventry desired to quicken Sir George Downing³ in the bringing in his advice about the rules to be accommodated for the issuing of passes in that kingdom.

A petition being read from the cooks of the great ships for an allowance of a servant, they being generally maimed; AGREED, That to such of them as by losing both arms or both legs shall be wholly disabled to help themselves without the assistance of another, a servant shall be allowed to be borne above the complement of the ship.

The case mentioned the 1st instant coming again into consideration touching ships abroad demanding second passes through the first not finding of them; RESOLVED (the merchants being called in and discoursed with about the matter) that, they giving good security for the return of the second, their request shall be granted.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3462, 3495.

² See *ib.*, 3724, 3731.

³ See *D. N. B.*, xv. 399. Sir George Downing was at this time a commissioner of the customs.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Duke of Lauderdale; Duke of Ormonde; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Secretary Coventry reads a letter from Consul Martin,¹ wherein he reports Captain Harman, the commander of the *Sapphire*, to have declared all ships of his Majesty's subjects met by the Turks at sea without passes to be lawful prize.

My Lord Chancellor desires from Mr. Pepys a deduction in writing of the whole business of passes from before the first proclamation concerning them.

Mr. Secretary Coventry does also read to his Majesty the copy of his letter of the 11th instant to Argeir, wherein he expostulates with them touching the construction of the said proclamation, which they have also yielded to us in by their having discharged a ship which they had carried in, upon their shewing him where it is that (as they pretend in their last letter) his Majesty has given them leave to take his ships that are found without passes.

RESOLVED, That the debating what will be fit to be further done in reference to Argeir be respited till Sir John Narbrough's coming hither, whom by his Majesty's order I have sent for by a letter² last night directed to Portsmouth for the meeting him at his arrival there from Plymouth.

The King and their Lordships do unanimously both approve and commend Sir John Narbrough's discretion in coming home without complying with the orders he met with at Cadiz for his returning to Argier, as distinguishing rightly what he was to do upon receipt of orders from England grounded upon the intelligence we then had at this distance.

ORDERED, That another ship be thought on for the joining with the Newfoundland convoy at Tangier in seeing the fish-ships safe to their ports, they being most of them supposed to want passes.

¹ Consul at Algiers.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3218.

Mr. Pepys is to consider what ships are best fitted for the purpose ¹ 'in case his Majesty shall find occasion of sending a squadron of ships back with Sir John Narbrough into the Straits.'

ORDERED also, That the two galley-frigates be hastened and sheathed.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty being shewn Captain Wood's journal of his late unfortunate voyage in the *Speedwell* upon the discovery of a North-East Passage, was pleased to peruse the same with great satisfaction.

ORDERED, That Sir John Berry's pension as a flag-officer do commence just as Sir Robert Robinson's did, namely, from the last time he was in sea pay before the date of the establishment.

ORDERED also, That Sir John Berry's bill of disbursements be forthwith paid for his last voyage to Newfoundland, as being so much ready money by him laid out.

The Navy Officers' opinion agreed to in their report touching the numbers of men to be appointed to the 2 galley-frigates, with the like of their being furnished with 80 watermen each for the use of the oar, and iron ballast out of the Tower if it be to be had, and sheathe them both with lead entirely.

The Navy Officers' report being also read touching Captain Davies's failure in his complying with the Lord Admiral's Instructions in his late voyage as commander of the *Foresight*; ORDERED, that he be excused the same as other commanders have been for the like or greater failures, and he left at liberty to receive his wages.

The *Sapphire* to have orders sent to Tangier to accompany the Newfoundland fleet ² to Livorne.

Captain Wood's journal for the *Speedwell* being now

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3226.

² See 17th September.

delivered in, ORDERED, That he and his officers be now at liberty to receive their wages.

Advice being given from Yarmouth of a privateer stopped by the magistrates there; ORDERED, that her commander (being a born subject of his Majesty's and what other such there are) being safely detained till further order, the vessel and the rest of the company be set at liberty in case no complaint come in against her within the appointed number of days after the publication of her being detained.

Upon a signification from Sir Robert Southwell¹ of a resolution taken to that purpose at the Council Board, ORDERED, That a stop be put to the further bringing in, or detaining when come in, any privateers belonging to the King of Spain, and that special care be taken for the bringing to punishment any of his Majesty's subjects found serving in privateers.

ORDERED, That the five men of Calais that have lain some time in durance in the Downs as being taken upon the English galliot rescued by the Drake,² be discharged, they having lain so long in custody without any complaint brought against them.

His Majesty is pleased to grant to Captain Flawes,³ master of the Prosperous pink, the value of the anchors and cables saved by him from the Speedwell, in consideration of his extraordinary humanity, care, and courage in looking out for and saving the whole company of his ship the Speedwell, shipwrecked upon Nova Zembla,⁴ the same being to be paid him upon an equitable valuation by the Officers of the Navy.

ORDERED, that the ornaments designed to the Charles galley-frigate by Mr. Pett (which by the suddenness of her launching was not finished on shore⁵) may be done now on float.

In case the person which Sir John Berry has pitched upon to go as his mate in the Bristol to Virginia will

¹ Sir Robert Southwell, the diplomatist, was one of the clerks to the privy council (*D. N. B.*, liii. 300).

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3286.

³ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. 265 n.

⁴ For an account of this see Charnock, *Biographia Navalis*, i. 164, 378.

⁵ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3197.

not be prevailed withal upon reasonable terms, ORDERED, that he be compelled thereto by pressing, with scope nevertheless left to Sir John Berry of promising him afterwards a further reward beyond his ordinary wages.

The Duke of Lauderdale shewing that the rules proposed for the granting of passes in Ireland cannot be accommodated to the style and practice of Scotland, prays that some settlement may be made therein, and that [from] Mr. Pepys, with the ten blank passes ordered to be delivered his Grace for the use of that kingdom,¹ he may have a copy of the rules appointed for England ; Which was accordingly ORDERED.

The widow of the carpenter of the Henrietta praying for the usual allowance to the widows of persons slain in his Majesty's service,² and the practice of the navy being opened by Mr. Pepys, by which his Majesty's said bounty is limited to the widows of persons slain in fight only, whereas the petitioner's husband happen[ed] to have been slain with a fall, the petition was laid aside as not coming within the establishment.

Several letters read, giving an account of the proceedings of some ships of his Majesty's abroad.

Upon application from the master of the Henrietta, condemned by a court-martial³ to six months imprisonment for his running the said ship on ground, of which six, 3 months are said to be expired, his Majesty is graciously pleased to remit the remaining 3, and to assent to his being forthwith discharged.

My Lord Treasurer coming in, was pleased, upon a motion made to him to that purpose, to promise to find some speedy way of paying Sir John Berry's bill of disbursements,⁴ and Sir William Poole the bounty his Majesty has been lately pleased to bestow on him,⁵ without obliging them to stay for payment in course.

¹ See 26th August ; p. 345 above.

² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 134.

³ See 22nd July and *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3100.

⁴ See p. 353 above.

⁵ See p. 347 above.

OCTOBER 1, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Navy Officers ordered to provide transportation for 1000 men to be sent for suppressing Bacon's rebellion in Virginia,¹ with 3 months bread and cheese to be carried for their support after landing there.

An embargo to be laid upon all ships going to Virginia,² as well from the out-ports as out of this River.

His Majesty entering into the debate of the present violencies offered by the Algereens to his Majesty's subjects contrary to our treaties, Sir John Narbrough is called in, and being asked his opinion thereto answers, that he does not conceive anything can be successfully attempted against the Mole there.

RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy be directed to prepare an estimate of the charge of preparing and setting forth to sea against Algeir the ships following:—

Rate	No.
3	3
4	8
5	4
Fireships	6
Double shallops	4

as also of a magazine of stores to be sent along with them.

Upon his Grace the Duke of Monmouth's proposal as [to] his own going as a private commander with Captain Sanderson and him in a particular ship and Sir John Narbrough with this fleet, his Majesty approved thereof, with direction given to Mr. Pepys that in the drawing up Captain Sanderson's commission care be taken that what is done here in particular respect to the Duke of Monmouth may not be drawn in precedent for a second captain to be borne in a private ship.

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. pp. xxv–xxvi.

² *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3260, 3261, 3262.

Upon Mr. Pepys moving that for preventing the damage his Majesty's subjects abroad and merchants at home may suffer [from] the Algereens before this fleet can be ready, in case tidings of these preparations shall reach the Turks' ears before notice be given to the said merchants, etc., that they may provide for their security, and that therefore his Majesty would be pleased that such notice may be in due manner communicated forthwith to his subjects concerned ; It was RESOLVED the whole of the said preparations be respited, and the discourse thereof forborne, till more perfect news from Argeir shall arrive of their carrying in any ships of ours that have passes.¹ Of which Mr. Secretary Coventry mentioned a present report of, namely, the Scanderoon, but without any certain intelligence of it.

OCTOBER 3, 1676

At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Duke of Monmouth ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Consideration being had of the dispatch necessary to be made in the sending away some advice to Virginia before the whole be ready, It was RESOLVED, That Sir John Berry should presently go away without staying for the rest, carrying along with him but 50 soldiers only.

Sir John Berry being called in, to whom it was committed to look out for shipping for transporting the 1000 men,² he reports that ships enough will be found in the River to transport them.

RESOLVED, That Sir John Berry go down the River again and invite the masters of the fittest ship[s] for this service to come to the Office of the Navy and treat for the freight of these soldiers upon Thursday next ; where Mr. Pepys is directed to be.

RESOLVED, That letters be sent this post to know what ships are at this day carried for Virginia from Portsmouth and Bristol.

¹ Cf. *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3282, 3294. ² See 1st October.

The Navy yacht, now at Portsmouth, is to be sent to Plymouth to fetch the soldiers from thence to Virginia.¹

Colonel Jeffreys² and the other captains undertake for 20s. a man to raise and keep the soldiers that are to be raised till they can deliver them into the custody of the Lieutenant of the Tower by 25 at a parcel.

The Lieutenant of the Tower to take care of their being provided for by his sutler there till they come to 50, after which, upon notice of such a number ready, the Navy Officers are to take them from him and provide thenceforward for their victualling, etc., through the voyage, as also hamaccoes.³

Sir John Berry ordered to take 50 men and 2 servants on board him at Portsmouth, as he shall be directed by the Duke of Monmouth.

His Majesty taking into consideration the late misbehaviour of Captain Atkins in the Quaker ketch in his submitting to be taken and carried into Algeir in most dishonourable manner; RESOLVED, that he be sent for home prisoner, and Mr. Pepys directed to see orders signed for the same.⁴

OCTOBER 5, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Chamberlain; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

ORDERED, That some one officer belonging to the soldiers be appointed by the Duke of Monmouth⁵ to take care of having a daily account ready to be given of every ship's proceeding in a readiness to take in soldiers.

ORDERED, That the soldiers which are coming from Hull to Plymouth⁶ be brought to the Tower, and that Sir John Robinson⁷ be directed to receive and provide for them accordingly.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3279.

² The commander of the land forces for Virginia.

³ One of the various forms of the word 'hammock.'

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3308, 3313.

⁵ As captain-general of the forces.

⁶ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3281.

⁷ Lieutenant of the Tower.

RESOLVED, by advice of the Officers of the Navy, that the Dartmouth be sent to Portsmouth to be fitted for her voyage to Virginia, and that two months magazine of bread and cheese more be provided.

OCTOBER 7, 1676

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

The boatswain of the Richmond yacht's report read about his being carried into Dieppe, whereof notice is to be given to the commander-in-chief in the Downs, with the name of the French ship and commander, in order to her being discovered and brought in.

A second letter from Yarmouth¹ being read, about a privateer of Dunkirk now there; RESOLVED, that those of her company that are the King's subjects be sent up hither in custody, to be tried for their serving in the said privateer.²

The Navy Officers' letter [read] about repairing the watering-place at Southwold³; RESOLVED, that it be done; as also that about hastening the victualling declaration,³ which was left to the King's coming to town.

The Navy Officers' demand being considered touching the charge of gilding the galley,⁴ valued at £35; ORDERED, that it should be done, his Majesty having heretofore signified his pleasure that it should be.

ORDERED, That ten blank passes, signed by the Lords, be delivered to the Duke of Lauderdale, with a printed book of rules for the guiding him in his issuing them for the service of his Majesty's subjects of Scotland, Upon a receipt to be taken for them, and a promise of an account to be hereafter given of their several disposals.

The report of the Navy Office being read touching the Dover dogger⁵; ORDERED to be read again when his Majesty shall be present.

¹ For a reference to the first letter, see 30th September.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3317.

³ See *ib.*, No. 3289.

⁴ Presumably one of the galley-frigates, Charles and James.

⁵ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3324.

The like of a letter from the Officers of the Navy touching the general power of pressing men.

Complaint being made of one Hattwell against Captain Lloyd¹ for his not paying of money unduly kept in his hand, and their Lordships being satisfied in the justness of the said complaint; ORDERED, That Captain Lloyd be directed peremptorily to pay the said money.

Several masters and owners of ships desiring passes being called in, they were successively answered by signing of some passes and refusing of others.

The Commissioners of the Customs to be reminded of perfecting their registers and transmitting them hither.

RESOLVED by the Lords to visit the Navy Office upon Saturday next.²

OCTOBER 14, 1676

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

A letter read from Mr. Secretary Coventry with an estimate for 75 soldiers more to be sent to Virginia, and the charge thereof.³ The Virginia ships to be hastened down lower as fast as may be.

The Officers of the Navy to be quickened in the survey of the ships.

OCTOBER 17, 1676

[At the Navy Office. *Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

The business of distinguishing between the navy and garrison's provisions at Tangier was largely debated, and no provision of hands observed to be provided on either side to control the victualling, and concluded upon as a thing very requisite that the Governor be

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3266, where the name of the petitioner appears as 'Hanwell.'

² See *ib.*, No. 3332.

³ See *ib.*, No. 3340.

required to sign to a particular certificate of every ship's unloading, with the species of provisions and quantities delivered therefrom.

My Lords to direct an account to be taken of all ships going away and loading for the navy, and transmit it to the Commission of Tangier, as the said Commission has of every ship's loading bound for the garrison.

It being reported that 24 men were by my Lord Inchiquin's ¹ order put upon Captain Rooth's ² ship out of the garrison, for improving, as is pretended, the scanty complement of her men, which 24 may, without care taken therein, be borne in victuals, if not in wages, both upon the ship and garrison; referred to Mr. Pepys to make enquiries hereafter upon Sir Richard Rooth's coming home into the right done his Majesty in that particular.

Their Lordships press the Officers of the Navy to the dispatch of the establishment, so long since referred to them to prepare, of men and guns for the fleet.

They also recommend to the said Officers their timely dispatching their general representation of the ships and navy, and their opinion of a magazine of stores fit to be provided for the same.

His Royal Highness being returned from Newmarket and having declared his Majesty's purpose of being the like in few days; ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys's intended journey thither be foreborne.

OCTOBER 17, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry.³]

RESOLVED, That the 37 men above the former number newly ordered to be sent to Virginia be provided for;

¹ Governor of Tangier.

² Commander of the Adventure. He had been knighted 14th April, 1675.

³ The MS. gives Williamson by mistake for Coventry, who, with some of the lords of the admiralty, was with the king at Newmarket, where this meeting must have been held (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 3340).

As also that Sir Thomas Chicheley¹ be called upon to declare the number of persons going thither in the service of the Ordnance, and Mr. Secretary Coventry was directed to prepare warrants for the same. ORDERED, That the Dartmouth and the Rose be fitted for this expedition to Virginia.

The merchants and masters of ships trading to Virginia to be summoned to attend his Majesty on Sunday next.

OCTOBER 21, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Victuals to be sent to the Phoenix at Jamaica.

An Order of Council read, touching Captain Preistman's taking away and violating a *seguro*²; ORDERED, to be referred to Sir Robert Robinson's examination and stopped the sale of the prize.

ORDERED, by the advice of the Navy Officers, that 80 watermen be provided and put on board each of the galley-frigates bound for Tangier.³

A letter from the Officers of the Navy touching the general power of pressing men being read, and the whole matter of pressing debated, and the authority of doing it, otherwise than by Act of Parliament, being controverted by the Lord Privy Seal, but the same concluded as a power indispensably inherent in the Crown, as that without which the trade and safety of the nation cannot be secured; ORDERED, That the old practice be continued of pressing men for the King's service upon an Order of Council granted upon the Lord Admiral's signifying to the Council Table the want of the said men for his Majesty's service.

CONCLUDED, That the Lord Treasurer be moved that 50 tons of the brimstone brought home by Sir John Narbrough as part of the satisfaction given his Majesty from that place⁴ be kept for the use of the navy,

¹ Master-general of the ordnance.

² *I.e.*, 'safe-conduct' (Spanish). See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3311.

³ See 30th September.

⁴ Tripoli; see *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3283, 3324.

and that the Lord Treasurer be moved therein, and for the disposal of the remainder as his Lordship shall judge of most advantage to his Majesty.

Demand from the Guinea Company reparation for the damage and charge his Majesty has undergone in reference to the Dover dogger, lent to the said Company.¹

The Mayor of Falmouth to be authorised to keep a while in their² hands the sails and rudder of the privateer which lately made her escape thence, in order to the reimbursing themselves the charges they have been at in reference to the said privateer.

Mr. Speaker moving for convoy for some ships bound forth from Exeter for Flanders and Holland, occasion is taken of considering in general the business of the guard in the Channel, that it may be increased, as also that the general declaration for the next year may be dispatched; ORDERED, that the Drake be sent with all speed for the service of their ships,³ and that the enlarging of the summer guard and issuing the declaration be provided for with all convenient speed, and that his Majesty may have the service of the Saudades in the Downs⁴ as soon as she can be cleaned, she being newly come home from Portugal.⁵

The Navy Officers' letter upon my Lord Treasurer to them of the 30 of September last about repairs, together with the estimate of the repair of the Royal Katherine,⁶ which was now signed by his Lordship and the rest.

Letters from Captain Russell⁷ and Captain Wyborne⁸ giving an account of their proceedings at Newfoundland, read.

Mr. Joliffe and some other merchants of the East India Company attending with their desire that they may have a supply of passes for certain ships bound to

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3324.

² *Margin* refers to 'Falmouth magistrates.'

³ See *ib.*, No. 3356.

⁴ See *ib.*, Nos. 3453, 3454.

⁵ The Saudades was the queen's ship, and made frequent voyages to her native country.

⁶ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3360.

⁷ Captain Edward Russell, afterwards admiral and Earl of Orford (*D. N. B.*, xlix. 429), was commander of the Reserve.

⁸ Captain John Wyborne was commander of the Pearl.

the Indies that may secure them after a year shall be expired, and they proposing their having one pass to last a year and another for what time further their ships shall stay abroad ; the same was granted, and directions given that notice of this later extraordinary pass should be given to the Consul at Argier, for preventing any inconveniency that may otherwise arise therefrom if they should be met with by any Turks before that matter about the duration of passes be adjusted with that people which has been long depending between us and them ; and Mr. Secretary Coventry has it before him to be dispatched.

Report is made to his Majesty of their Lordships' late being at the Navy Office,¹ and their resolution then taken is now approved of for the Governor of Tangier sending monthly a double certificate of the state of the victuals there, as well navy as garrison's.

RESOLVED, that the slaves belonging to the galley be delivered over to the Mole, and continued in the house provided for them where they now are.

The three passes desired by Mr. James Hutton found reasonable and granted.

The ships attending upon Sallee to continue (the peace there being made²) plying about Tangier till further order.

The Dartmouth and Rose to be fitted and manned forth with the Bristol for Virginia.

OCTOBER 28, 1676

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Several masters and merchants sworn for passes.

Mr. Secretary Coventry to be spoken to for an additional warrant to my Lords for more men to be provided for and sent to Virginia ; Their Lordships having for their dispatch sake already proceeded to the denying of it.

¹ 17th October.

² The 'marine peace' with Sallee was signed 28th August, 1676 ; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3330.

The case of the Industry about a pass to be laid before the Council Table.

Inquiries to be made at the Council Chamber of the clerk there touching what reports are lodged there about the general number of seamen and shipping of England.

Collect the several cases that have lately happened of indignities offered to the King's flag, and what has been done thereupon.

Dr. Lloyd¹ to be consulted with in the case of Mr. Luddington, referred hither from the Council Table.

Mr. Secretary Williamson takes the charge of inquiring after the order for Sir John Shaw's² giving no more certificates till the business of the freedoms of ships be examined.

Captain Tyte's business³ to be examined this day seven night, and all parties called, about his rencounter with a French vessel, and his boatswain carried into Dieppe⁴ with a vessel of the King's subjects.

The Navy Officers' report read about the extravagant rate demanded for the use of the wharf hired for his Majesty's service at Jamaica, and the said rate denied to be allowed by the Lords.

An estimate delivered to Mr. Speaker for 130 more men to be sent (and provided for) to Virginia.

My Lord Vaughan⁵ to be wrote to about his assuming to himself the doing of things appertaining to the Lord Admiral only.

The Navy Officers' report read, about Captain Binning's⁶ non-compliance with his instructions, and RESOLVED to be reported to his Majesty, with their opinion and observation of the ruinous consequences to the discipline of the navy that attends the indulgence shewn by his Majesty to captains in their neglect of observing their duty in execution of the Lord Admiral's Instructions.

¹ MS. 'Floyd.' He was surrogate to the judge of the admiralty.

² Collector of customs for the port of London.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3350.

⁴ See 7th October; Captain Tyte, now commander of the Deptford ketch, had commanded the Richmond yacht as late as 23rd June (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. 184 n).

⁵ Governor of Jamaica.

⁶ Commander of the Swan prize.

OCTOBER 29, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Secretary Coventry is desired to see the Lords supplied with his Majesty's warrant for the provision they are making for the 130 soldiers to be sent to Virginia and provided for above the first number beside.¹

AGREED, that the Officers of the Navy do make provision for a quantity of salt to be sent to Virginia with the men.²

A yacht to be sent to Portsmouth for the 78 men that are to be drawn out from thence for Virginia.³

The business of the proposals made for France about English passes discoursed, in order to the making them observed by the French, and Mr. Secretary Coventry directed by his Majesty to inform Monsieur Courtin the French Ambassador therein, Mr. Pepys being also directed to give Mr. Secretary (to that purpose) example of pass issued by the Lords of the Admiralty, as the rest of the hands are also to do for whom passes are ordinarily issued.

NOVEMBER 1, 1676

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Mr. Speaker; Lord Craven. Officers of the Navy attending.]

Mr. Houblon's ⁴ pass for a ship at Portsmouth granted.

Upon Moon's petition in the case of a pass said to [be] lost, another was granted, upon condition of the master's swearing to the truth of the loss and good security given that it shall never be otherwise employed.

Upon a petition read from the company of the Speedwell for satisfaction of their clothes lost with the said

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3368, 3376, 3391. The original number of men to be sent to Virginia was 1000; to this 77 were added, and then 53 more.

² See *ib.*, No. 3390.

³ See *ib.*, Nos. 3383, 3388.

⁴ Probably Mr. Houblon the merchant, afterwards Sir James Houblon.

ship at Nova Zembla ; ANSWERED, that the same can't be granted, the practice of the navy not allowing it, and a precedent unfit to be made in it, besides that his Majesty has been already pleased to make them amends for their said loss by his continuing of them in pay until their coming home, whereas according to the strictness of practice they could not pretend thereto beyond the time of their ship's being lost.

Captain Harris his victualling of 18 soldiers for Tangier allowed, it being by Lord Inchiquin's¹ order, but Mr. Creed, the Secretary to the Tangier Commissioners, to be acquainted therewith in order to his checking the same.

Dr. Lloyd,² by order, attends with his opinion in the case of Luddington³ referred⁴ from the Council Table, and advises the goods taken out of the ships in question of to be delivered, upon bond to be entered into by Mr. Luddington for £1000 to make good to the value thereof to the King, in case any right of the King should be proved thereto within 12 months.

A petition of one Mr. Hardwick⁵ read, for a convoy for wines of his coming from France to the Downs, to be sent from thence for the coasts of France and Holland ; the same was granted, upon the ship's name being known after their arrival in the Downs.

The Lord Brouncker⁶ being demanded touching the Wine Act⁷ and the state thereof in reference to the satisfying the navy creditors assigned thereon, opens the same in part by discourse and is desired to do it more perfectly in writing.

The petition of William Fox, purser of the Plymouth, being read, praying that a bill for moneys due to him from his Majesty may be taken in satisfaction for money due by him to the King, the same thought reasonable and granted.

¹ Governor of Tangier.

² MS. 'Floyd.'

³ See 28th October, and *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3432. Nathaniel Luddington, or Lodington, was a merchant of London trading with Sallee.

⁴ MS. 'reformed.'

⁵ Probably the merchant who appears in the *Admiralty Letters* (No. 3721) as Mr. Ralph Hardick.

⁶ Comptroller of the Treasurer's accounts.

⁷ See note on p. 315 above.

The Navy Officers' report of the general state of his Majesty's ships and stores read, and the particular survey of the stores being demanded also by the Lords, the same was ORDERED to be presented to them with all speed for his Majesty's being informed therein.

NOVEMBER 2, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

RESOLVED, That some rice ¹ be provided and sent to the ship[s] to Virginia, a quantity not being determined but left to the Duke of Monmouth to consider.

The distribution of the accommodations to be had on shipboard for Colonel Morrison and Colonel Jeffreys, his Majesty's Commissioners to Virginia, and their companies to be made with the advice and by the direction of Sir John Berry.

The merchant-ships to fall down as soon as they can below Long Reach,² and to wear jacks in their voyage outwards, to be delivered up at their arrival at Virginia to Sir John Berry.

The Guarland assigned for the carrying the King of Sweden's ³ goods to Gottenburg,⁴ as soon as the Assurance or some other ship shall come to take her place in the Downs.

NOVEMBER 4, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

The Ostend privateer at Weymouth ordered to be discharged, in case her master will swear that the leather found on board her is not English, and with condition

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3401, 3409.

² Between Erith and Gravesend.

³ MS. 'Sweedland's.'

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3402.

also that no evidence of the contrary appear to the Mayor of the place.

Lieutenant Hodder's¹ letter read of the French not striking, and notice thereof directed to be taken by Mr. Secretary Coventry.

An account from the Francis read of the Dutch saluting her.

Captain Houlding's² letter read of his long stay at Lisbon.

Captain Binning's case³ of his neglect of performing the Admiral's Instructions being read; ORDERED, That so much of his wages as have accrued since the date of the last rule for enjoining commanders to the execution of the said Instructions be stopped from him, and the rest paid.

Mr. Speaker moves that while the slopseller's account of the navy is under dispute, his account may not stay for them but be passed, he charging himself in the front of his ledger with so much as has relation thereto.

Order of Council being read about an embargo upon ships bound to Barbadoes, prepared and presently signed a warrant pursuant thereto.

Sir John Bramston bringing his report of the proceedings of his late Court of Vice-Admiralty at Burnham,⁴ the same was read, and ORDERED to be transmitted to the Judge of the Admiralty for his opinion touching the same, and Sir John to bring in a perfect account of the charges of the said Court which he desires to be reimbursed.

Press warrants being demanded by the commanders of the two galley-frigates,⁵ Mr. Pepys is directed to deliver a memorial⁶ thereof to the Council Board for their warrant thereon.

Mr. Secretary Coventry reading a letter to him from Ireland, wherein advice was given him of timber and

¹ Lieutenant Richard Hodder was in temporary command of the Drake.

² Commander of the Assistance. See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3387.

³ See 28th October.

⁴ See 26th August.

⁵ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xxix.

⁶ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3426.

plank sending away thence for Rochelle for the King of France's shipping there, it is recommended to Mr. Secretary Coventry to write to my Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to prevent the going forth [of] the said commodities.

A case coming before the Lords of a pass demanded in lieu of a former, said to be lost, with particular circumstance specified of the manner and occasion of the said loss; ORDERED, that another be granted upon oath of the master taken of the truth of the said loss, and bond given against any use to be made of the former with his privity, and that he would discover it if ever he should understand where the said pass is.

The petition of Page¹ and Lynch, two pursers, being read, praying remedy against the prejudice they lie under from false informations, the said petitions were put into the hands of Mr. Speaker, to consider and report what (upon examination) he shall find reasonable to be urged against the matter thereof.

NOVEMBER 5, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

ORDERED, that the same provision of medicines be made for soldiers going to Virginia as are usually made for seamen serving in the King's ships; and hasten all the men on board and the merchant-ships out of the River.

It is committed to Sir Richard Haddock and Sir Anthony Deane to hire the great cabins² in the merchantmen as cheap as they can of the masters, for the accommodation of the King's officers that go along with them.

It being proposed that a place of rendezvous be appointed for the ships going to Virginia (for their resort to in case of separation), and it being a point

¹ Possibly Matthew Page, the purser of the *Stavoreen*, referred to in *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3819, 3820, 3821.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3429.

unfit to be presently published, his Majesty is pleased to take to himself the giving his directions therein upon conference with Sir John Berry.

NOVEMBER 9, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

A new yacht be[ing] proposed to be built by Mr. Pett of Chatham ¹ in the room of the Anne, now grown old,² It was debated with the Officers of the Navy touching Mr. Pett's proposal whether it would be best to have her built by contract or in the King's yard, and unanimously agreed that it should be in the King's yard,³ and ORDERED that she be presently put in hand, with 12 men to be forthwith entertained for their work, and an estimate to be proposed in usual form of the charge thereof by the Officers of the Navy.

Leave given to Sir John Tippetts ⁴ at his request to go out of town upon occasion of the late death of his son-in-law.

Proposed and agreed, that some one fitting boatswain be appointed in each galley-frigate to serve as a boatswain extraordinary for the government of the men at the oar.

Captain Bonamy's petition being read, praying relief from his Majesty, as being grown old in his and [his] Royal father's service, the same was referred to Mr. Pepys, upon examining the said captain's papers, to report matter of fact to this Board, and how far the said captain is relievable within the rules of the navy.

The like done upon a petition of old Captain Shelby's.

Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty and the Lords that several persons pretend to the benefit of his Majesty's

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3377.

² Built at Woolwich by Mr. Christopher Pett in 1661.

³ A discussion of the advantages of building in the king's yards over this 'old and blind way of contracts' will be found in Hollond, *Discourses of the Navy* (N.R.S. Publications, vii.), pp. 35-41).

⁴ Surveyor of the navy.

allowance as volunteers upon the score of their having served his Majesty at sea formerly as volunteers, though not by any particular warrant of the King or Lord Admiral's, and that therefore their being now above 16 years old is not to be any impediment to their having the said benefit, and it being considered not only that this encouragement is given for the inviting young gentlemen to venturing upon the trade of a seaman (the hardships whereof are greatest at first) and which therefore these pretenders are already got over, but that should that pretence be admitted the number of such pretenders would be found very great and chargeable; It was RESOLVED, that by the word *Volunteer* in the late establishment¹ about their allowance, is meant such a one only as is or has formerly been entertained as such by special warrant from the King or Lord High Admiral, and that that be from time to time given by the Secretary of the Admiralty in answer to any that shall pretend to this allowance without the qualification.

Direct ORDER, That Sir Thomas Chicheley² have notice of the brimstone³ brought from Tripoli by Sir John Narbrough, in order to his taking so much thereof speedily from on board the vessel where it lies as shall by the Lord Treasurer's warrant be assigned for the use of the Ordnance.

A report from the Office of the Ordnance being read, touching the business of allowing boats to his Majesty's maritime forts and castles, and the ancient practice according to which the charge whereof was usually defrayed; Mr. Pepys is ordered to provide an account of all the boats that have hitherto and are at this day supplied to the said forts and castles by the navy, in order to their being reconsidered and the whole settled of what shall and shall not be allowed, and from whence the charge thereof is to be borne.

Leave given to the officers at Woolwich to lay the ships there on ground for their security against the frost.

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 214.

² Master-general of the ordnance.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3283, 3324.

RESOLVED, upon debate with the Officers of the Navy, that the extraordinary petty warrant victuals is not to be included in common with the rest within the declaration, but to be provided for distinct.

Mr. Pepys opening to his Majesty the case of several poor seamen who by having lost 2 of their limbs are not capable of enjoying the benefit of his Majesty's favour to maimed seamen in giving them the employment of cooks on ships by reason of their being unable to exercise¹ the same, and propounded therefore that in consideration of the extraordinariness of the charity due to these poor wretches, and that the number of the whole of the double-maimed men cannot (from what have appeared of them) be estimated to exceed 40, his Majesty would be graciously pleased to take them into his charity as pensioners during their lives by allowing them pensions equal to their wages they enjoyed at the time of their being so double-maimed; His Majesty, with the advice of my Lords, was pleased to assent to the said proposal, and direct that care be taken for the digesting the same into a method to receive an establishment² at the Council Table.

Lynch the purser to be provided with some employment if the Speaker's report³ will admit thereof.

The consideration of the general representation of the state of the ships and stores to be postponed until the Lord Treasurer should be present.

The request on behalf of the officers employed by Sir John Narbrough in the great and successful action at Tripoli being considered for their having each of them a medal⁴ as a mark of his Majesty's bounty to them; RESOLVED, that his Majesty's promise heretofore declared by his Majesty in their favour should be made good to them, and that the commanders of the men-of-war should have theirs of about £60 price, and those of fireships and lesser vessels proportionably.

¹ MS. 'encrease.'

² MS. 'established'

³ See 4th November.

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3522.

NOVEMBER 10, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Sir John Berry attending.]

Sir John Berry attending, the business of his instructions considered, and the following particulars agreed on, viz. :—

That he should go to rights¹ to Virginia, without stopping anywhere.

The masters of the merchantmen not [to] open their instructions till they come within the second headlands there.

The Bristol and the Dartmouth in case of separation.

A letter to be wrote to the Governor of each of his Majesty's colonies what to do if any of these ships shall by stress of weather or otherwise be driven in there.

To put his men to short allowance of victualling when it shall be convenient.

Sir John Berry to govern singly in all matters relating to sea service, though he be but joint commander in common with the other two² in reference to land affairs.

To be authorised to accommodate his fellow Commissioners with hands and stores out of his ships for furthering the service on shore, as far as the same shall appear needful and can be done without prejudice to the service of the said ships at sea.

To have power of taking up any vessels³ that his Majesty's service shall require⁴ there.

To have money for answering the seaman's short allowance and contingenc[i]es.⁵

To be authorised to hold courts-martial.

Agreed, that Sir John Berry be furnished with seine⁶ for catching of fish.

Directed by the King that a yacht be appointed for carrying Marquis Huntly⁷ to Scotland.

¹ 'To rights' = straightway.

² Colonel Morrison and Colonel Jeffreys.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3439.

⁴ MS. 'acquire.'

⁵ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3438.

⁶ MS. 'sayne.'

⁷ George Gordon, fourth Marquis of Huntly and afterwards first Duke of Gordon; see *D. N. B.*, xxii. 194.

NOVEMBER II, 1676

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Lord Ossory.
Navy Officers attending.]

A petition being read in behalf of the cooks of his Majesty's ships, and others that may hereafter be employed herein as cooks, who have lost 2 limbs, or lost one and being maimed in another, that they may be allowed a servant¹; It was RESOLVED, that his Majesty be moved therein after Mr. Pepys shall have advised with the Officers of the Navy what may be the properest method of relieving the said double-maimed men, whether by pensions, as was agreed on by his Majesty the other day,² or continuing them aboard the ships with a servant.

A petition of Purser Gardner read, and referred to the Navy Officers.

Mr. Cooper, the agent for the Commissioners of the Sick and Wounded Seamen for London, presenting a petition wherein he prays that his accounts may be speedily stated [and] balance paid; ORDERED, that the same be referred to the said Principal Commissioners for their report thereon.

A petition of Mr. Pate, an ironmonger, being read, about a pass lost; ORDERED, that an oath be made of the truth of the said loss, and the case represented to the Council Table.

The report of the Navy Office being read, touching the agreement³ made with Mr. Slaughter for his ground adjoining to the King's whereon the Navy Office stood, and Mr. Slaughter insisting upon present payment; Mr. Pepys opened to the Lords the assignations that were so long since offered him for his money by my Lord Treasurer as that, had he accepted them, he had been a great while ago paid, and their Lordships respited their giving any answer thereto till his Majesty were present.

The Navy Officers' report read about brandy to be provided for soldiers going to Virginia⁴; and ORDERED, that the same be provided accordingly.

¹ See 16th September.

² 9th November.

³ MS. 'argument.' ⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3428, 3430.

About a second pass for the ship Jerusalem, partly belonging to Sir Thomas Allin, 'her old one now almost expired.'

The request of Sir John Holmes¹ for a boat for Hurst Castle deferred.

Mr. Chapman's petition² for a pass for a ship to Cherbourg³ to be reported to the Council as reasonable.

A letter being read from Mr. Bedford,⁴ Register to the Admiralty, touching the controversy depending between the Court of Admiralty and my Lord Salisbury⁵ about a body of a drowned⁶ man taken up in the river of Thames, and the right of burying, etc., of the said body; ORDERED, that Mr. Bedford do appear to the suit, and the Lords will (when they see the declaration) give direction for further proceedings and will protect him.

The Council Table to be moved about the taking off the embargo,⁷ upon the Virginia ships being gone.

Sir William Poole⁸ appearing to have victualled more passengers in his last voyage to Barbadoes (at the importunity of Sir Jonathan Atkins⁹) than the King's orders to the said Sir William Poole does warrant; RESOLVED, that the purser, who is acknowledged by Sir William Poole to have victualled the said men by his express command, be allowed for the said victuals by Sir William Poole or by the King, to be made good to his Majesty by Sir William Poole, and that Sir William Poole do make himself what amends he can for the same upon Sir Jonathan Atkins.

The Secretary of the Admiralty observed to the Lords from the Downs list that vessels which are not the King's are inserted there as the King's, occasioned by the[ir] presuming to wear the King's jack,¹⁰ and Sir Richard Haddock and Sir Anthony Deane confirming the same by saying that they met them coming up the river of Thames with their jacks flying; ORDERED, that the master[s] of the said vessel[s] be summoned to answer for their said presumption.

¹ *D. N. B.*, xxvii. 192.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3463.

³ MS. 'Sheerbrough.'

⁴ MS. 'Beckford.'

⁵ James Cecil, third Earl of Salisbury; see *D. N. B.*, ix. 397.

⁶ MS. 'drowned.'

⁷ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3260, 3261, 3262.

⁸ Late commander of the *St. David*.

⁹ Governor of Barbados.

¹⁰ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3410, 3417, 3469.

NOVEMBER 12, 1676

Present: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Lauderdale; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

ORDERED, that 1 gallon of brandy a man and no more be the provision to be made for the soldiers going to Virginia,¹ as being the proportion ordinarily allowed to the seamen and passengers using that voyage.

The masters of the merchantmen to have instructions to obey Sir John Berry, and that the proposal [be] approved of his having power of pressing vessels there as his Majesty's service shall call for the same.²

RESOLVED, that the embargo³ be continued till the ships of his Majesty be judged clear of the Soundings.

The preparing of a circular letter to the Governor of each of his Majesty's colonies abroad in behalf of any of these ships being separated from the rest by stress of weather,² committed to Mr. Secretary Coventry.

£500 to be imprested to Sir John Berry for answering the contingencies of the fleet.²

Mr. Pepys moving for orders for the merchant-ships sailing, the same was granted and he directed to prepare⁴ the same.

My Lord Treasurer undertakes to have the embargo³ taken off to-morrow for the merchantmen employed in this service by his Majesty.

The project for the next summer and winter guard being prepared, and now presented by Mr. Pepys, the same was considered, and the charge thereof ORDERED to be computed, and presented to the Council Table on Wednesday next, after it shall have been first passed by my Lord Treasurer.

A vessel ORDERED to be hired for the carrying some goods of the King of Sweden's to Gottenburg.⁵

¹ See p. 375 above.

² See 10th November.

³ See p. 376 above.

⁴ MS. 'propose.'

⁵ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3433, 3454.

NOVEMBER 14, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor;
Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain;
Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Upon his Majesty's speaking with one Captain Smyth, a master of a merchant-vessel just come from Virginia, giving an account of Bland's being taken prisoner and Sir William Berkeley¹ being possessed of the ships there; It was RESOLVED, that Sir John Berry and Colonel Morrison should be hastened away before the rest of the forces, and that they should be gone out of town to-morrow morning.²

Expresses to be presently sent away to stay the Bristol and Deptford ketch at Portsmouth in case they be not departed thence to the Downs, with the like to the Downs to direct their returning to Portsmouth in case they should be come thither.³

The Dartmouth to be hastened after them with all speed with 2 or 3 of the forwardest of the merchantmen, and the Rose to follow with the rest.

Sir Richard Haddock and Sir Anthony Deane to go down and clear the River of the merchantmen,² not stirring from them till they see they are all gone.

A wherry to be sent down as low as Gravesend⁴ to send up all the land-officers, in order to their winding up all their business here with the Duke of Monmouth, etc., so as they may be in condition to be gone for good and all.

RESOLVED, that the ketch which is now ordered to go away with Sir John Berry do remain at Virginia till Sir William Berkeley and he think fit to send her back with intelligence, whether presently⁵ or when the rest of the ships shall be arrived there.

¹ MS. 'Bartley.' On Sir William Berkeley, governor of Virginia, see *D. N. B.*, iv. 368. For the history of the rebellion see Doyle, *The English in America*, i. 321 ff., and Winsor, *History of America*, iii. 151-2.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3448.

³ *Ib.*, Nos. 3444-7.

⁴ *Ib.*, No. 3448.

⁵ Immediately.

NOVEMBER 18, 1676

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Sir George Carteret.¹]

The Rulers of Waterman's Hall attending about the men which, with the approval of the Officers of the Navy, they have appointed for the use of the galley-frigates, do shew that, though they all have not been at sea actually, yet they are lusty young men that have generally served 4 or 5 years of their time, and consequently very well fitted for the service of the galley for which they are specially entertained.

A letter read from Sir Richard Haddock and Sir Anthony Deane from Gravesend about their sailing of the Virginia ships.²

A complaint of Lieutenant Dunbar against the new-invented fire-hearth placed in the galley-frigate wherein he serves³ being considered, the same was ORDERED to be referred to the Navy Officers to give their opinion concerning it.

The Guarland to be sent to Sweden.⁴

The Marshal of the Admiralty signifying what he had heard touching the partiality of the magistrates of Yarmouth in concealing the boatswain of the privateer now in that port, who is the King's subject and ought to have been secured with the rest; RESOLVED, That account thereof be demanded from the magistrates of the said town.

An account of passes from the officers of the customs of the town of Barnstaple coming (contrary to the rule) immediately to the Lords instead of passing by the Commissioners of the Port of London; ORDERED, That the same be sent to the said⁵ Commissioners for their perusal, to be by them handed⁶ to the Lords.

ORDERED, That the company of the Europa hulk which was burnt at Malta be paid their wages, It appearing

¹ Usually entered as 'Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.'

² See 14th November.

³ The Charles; see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3462.

⁴ As ordered on 2nd November.

⁵ MS. 'Lords.'

⁶ MS. 'handing.'

that the burning of the said hulk arose, not from any fault of the said company but from some particular persons belonging thereto who, after trial for the same before a court-martial, were condemned and executed.¹

ORDERED, that an allowance of pay as judge-advocate be made to Dr. Franklin, who appears to have executed that office under Sir John Narbrough during his late service in the Straits.

Baylie the shipwright's petition 'for some allowances of charge in relation to the last ship' built by him at Bristol for the King² referred to the Officers of the Navy for further report.

Interest to be paid to Mr. Salter 'for the time that the money has failed to have been paid by his Majesty' for the ground adjoining the Navy Office.

NOVEMBER 25, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Navy Officers attending.]

The masters of 2 vessels belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company being summoned, according to a late order, to answer for their presumption in wearing the King's jack,³ and his Highness Prince Rupert being pleased to answer on their behalf (they themselves also attending) that they fell into their said error by ignorance, that they humbly confessed their said error to his Majesty, and begged his pardon for it, with promise of avoiding the like for the future, his Majesty was pleased to excuse the same.

The galley-frigates ordered to fall down with all speed to the Hope, because of the frost.

The Rose ordered to sail away as soon as she is refitted.⁴

Mr. Salter's interest to be allowed.⁵

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3603.

² Probably the Oxford, a 4th-rate, built in 1674.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3410, 3417, 3469, 3496.

⁴ See *ib.*, Nos. 3491, 3492.

⁵ See 18th November.

The Old James ¹ to be brought from Chatham to Woolwich.

His Majesty excuses Captain Binning's failure.²

Captain Pinn also his case coming before the King for his failures, his Majesty is not pleased to remit that part of them which relates to his not mustering of his ship's company and his giving out tickets to his steward blank.

Sir John Bramston's account of charges in holding his late Court of Vice-Admiralty at Burnham ² perused and allowed, grounding the same (for avoiding precedents) upon the said Court's being held by the Lord Admiral's special command for the sake of the matter wherein his Majesty's right and jurisdiction (being a thing of so much importance of that of Burnham Water) was concerned.

Captain Canning ³ praying the payment of some arrears of money due to him from the King, for the enabling him the better to proceed upon the voyage he is now designed for [to] the Straits, a favour which appears to have been ordinarily done to other commanders going forth, it was granted.

His Majesty and their Lordships being moved on behalf of [the] commanders and companies of the 2 fireships kept in ordinary service for the guard of Portsmouth and Sheerness, that they might be paid at the yards whereto they belong; The same is judged reasonable and accordingly ORDERED.

Captain Brereton, clerk of the check of his Majesty's yard at Woolwich, praying that in consideration of some urgent occasion relating to his family he might be permitted to execute his place by a deputy for 6 months, and the Officers of the Navy now present concurring in and promoting his said request and declaring their satisfaction in the person propounded by him to serve as his deputy; the same was agreed to.

¹ A 2nd-rate, built in 1633; to be distinguished from the James Royal, a 1st-rate, built in 1675.

² See 4th November.

³ Captain George Canning had been appointed on 20th October to the command of the new galley-frigate the James, about to sail with the Charles to Tangier.

Consented to by his Majesty, at the motion of the commanders of several yachts now at Greenwich and Deptford, that for the safety of the said yachts they do fall down to Gravesend, for avoiding injuries of the present frost and preventing their being blocked up by it in the River.

The declaration for the next year read and approved, and ORDERED to be presented to the Council Board the next meeting.

Douge's case, about payment demanded by the party after the Treasurer declares payment to have been made by him, respited till the Navy Officers' report come upon that subject in the case of Widow Newell.

Twenty blank passes more¹ ordered to be sent to my Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

The matter complained of against Captain Tyte in the Richmond yacht being this day opened by the parties complaining that he did not his duty in the rescue of an English vessel taken by 2 Frenchmen, But suffered her to be carried into Dieppe, and the boatswain of his² own yacht carried away with her,³ and Captain Tyte's papers in his defence being read (himself being absent, bound to Virginia), he was judged to have fully acquitted himself of his duty, and was accordingly declared by his Majesty and my Lords to have no blame therein.

DECEMBER 2, 1676

[*Present*: Lord Chancellor; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

The general state of the navy prepared for his Majesty's view was first read and approved by the Lords in expectation of having an opportunity of presenting the same to his Majesty this morning (by his appointment) at his return from Windsor, but prevented therein by his not coming to town.

A letter from Sir John Berry being writ from sea from his way to Virginia, RESOLVED thereupon, that a

¹ See 26th August.

² MS. 'her.'

³ See 7th October.

memorial be given to the Council Table at its next meeting for taking off the embargo.¹

ORDERED, That the Londra, a vessel brought by Sir John Narbrough from Tripoli, for information for his Majesty of their manner of build,² be laid up and her men discharged.

The Yarmouth bailiffs cleared and excused.³

Occasion happening of mention being made of the Chest at Chatham and the contributions thereto, and particularly that of the groats on ships where there is no chaplain, Mr. Pepys took an opportunity from thence to move the Lords that they would be pleased to take, either now or at some other time, into their consideration the business of the chaplains of his Majesty's ships⁴ :—how few commanders take any ; the ill choice generally made of those that are entertained, both for ignorance and debauches, to the great dishonour of God and the Government, and the encouraging of profaneness and dissolutions⁵ in the fleet. Which motion their Lordships were pleased greatly to approve of as a thing most necessary and seasonable, and commanded Mr. Pepys to prepare himself to give them a full account of the ancient and present practice of the navy in that particular of appointing of chaplains, when his Majesty shall be present.

ORDERED, that in case Ward, who was executed at Malta for setting on fire the Europa hulk, was not condemned to forfeit his wages with his life, his wages be paid to his widow, now petitioning for the same.

The seamen of the Holmes fireship, from whom moneys were stopped at pay-table for satisfaction for a slave which they were found to have conveyed away from Algeir, petitioning to the Lords this day that the said stop might be removed, and the ill consequences of that liberty being considered, their petition was denied.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3465.

² MS. 'built.'

³ See 18th November.

⁴ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 205-7.

⁵ *I.e.*, 'dissoluteness.'

DECEMBER 12, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Advice coming this day to Secretary Coventry from Portsmouth of several Dutch men-of-war putting in there in their return from the Straits for shelter during the present season, the frost not suffering them to go into their own ports, The consideration of the safety of his Majesty's ships against any mischief that may be done thereto by surprise was taken into debate at a meeting of the Lords purposely called, and Colonel Legge, Governor of Portsmouth, attending, where it was at last determined that, ground being taken from several of the King of France his ships being there before them, and the differences that may possibly arise between their men in case they should continue there together, The Dutch Ambassador should be let to understand that it would in every respect be more convenient that the States' ships should repair to Plymouth, where they might lie in every respect as safe and commodiously as at Portsmouth, and be supplied as easily with all they stand in want of. That for such other ships as stood in need of anything to enable them to repair to Plymouth, they should be furnished therewith at Portsmouth¹ in the same manner and with the same respect as the French fleet formerly was, upon a security taken of the particulars of the said wants and overlooked by some of his Majesty's officers, the care whereof was committed in the present occasion to Colonel Legge, and that Colonel Legge do repair to Monsieur van Beuningen,² the Dutch Ambassador, to acquaint him with his Majesty's determinations herein.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3600.

² MS. 'Van Buninghan.'

DECEMBER 16, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven.]

The business of the new-fashioned fire-hearths¹ for ships proposed by Colonel Ewbank being debated with the Officers of the Navy, the said Officers declared their approval of the said invention, and that encouragement being given thereto, as far as any prevention² ought before the usefulness thereof be fully confirmed by experience.

Mr. Betts, master of the Europa hulk³ lately set on fire at Malta, petitioning for some compensation for the loss by the said fire, it was considered that the practice of the navy doth not allow satisfaction for loss of clothes, etc., to particular men in case of ships lost by accident of weather. But that nevertheless where a ship miscarries by treachery, and the treachery proved by the detection, condemnation, and execution of the malefactors (as it hath been in the present case) there it may be reasonable to allow some consideration for private losses, and that therefore Mr. Betts ought to be considered for his. However, for preventing an impossibility of his Majesty's bounty to him in the present case being made a precedent hereafter, to the drawing a charge upon the King in ordinary cases of ships lost, it was RESOLVED, that a sum near the value of what Captain Betts pretends to may be given him by bill, as a gratuity from his Majesty for his extraordinary services past in general, without any mention of the particular occasion.

Brouncker, purser of the Unicorn, being complained of by the Navy Officers for neglect of duty and misbehaviour, ORDERED to be suspended from his employment.⁴

The purser of the Speedwell (which was cast away upon Nova Zembla) petitioning for an allowance for provisions by him bought by his captain's order, and for supernumeraries victualled by like order, Directed to

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3462.

² *I.e.*, prevention of fire.

³ See *ib.*, No. 3603.

⁴ This is the final chapter of a long story: see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xxxix.

bring in a particular of the species and quantities of provisions so by him bought, and the ground of bearing those supernumeraries, well attested, before he was to expect to be allowed the same.

The Lord Treasurer to be written to touching the state of the interest due to Mr. Salter¹ and the reasonableness of its being allowed.

Instructions prepared by [the] Officers [of the] Navy for the 2nd boatswain upon each of the galley-frigates, appointed to conduct the oars,² being read were approved.

The case of Mr. Baylie,¹ shipwright of Bristol, in reference to the overwork by him performed upon the last ship by him built for his Majesty there, being opened, Their Lordships represented the same to his Majesty as a matter fit to be allowed of by his Majesty as of his bounty but not as of right.

Application being made this day by several pursers, praying relief under their want of the payment of the balances of their accounts, to the urging many of them to sell their bills 8s. *per* £ less; AGREED to be taken into consideration when the Lord Treasurer shall be present.

DECEMBER 19, 1676

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Duke of York³; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Craven; Lord Chamberlain; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Lord Privy Seal.]

An extraordinary meeting being this day summoned by the King's direction, and Colonel Legge's letter to Mr. Secretary Coventry and Mr. Pepys of the 17th instant from Portsmouth being read touching the Dutch ships of war⁴ and French merchant-vessels now there; It was upon debate RESOLVED, that the Master of the Ordnance⁵ should be directed to confirm what Colonel

¹ See 18th November.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3559.

³ The Duke of York was not a member of the admiralty commission.

⁴ See 12th December.

⁵ Sir Thomas Chicheley; *D. N. B.*, x. 231.

Legge had done in ordering the issuing of arms to the boats and mounting of guns.

As also that some seamen extraordinary be entered for watching on board the King's ships during this occasion.

And that the Officers of the Navy be directed to supply the Heer Almond[e] with anchors and cables.¹

An account of which more at large is given Colonel Legge by Mr. Pepys to Portsmouth this night; *Vide* the said letter.¹

DECEMBER 23, 1676

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Captain Carverth in the Francis having by letter complained of the ignorance of the pilot that he carried with him into the Baltic, and giving an account of several dangers he and his ships were led into thereby during that voyage; ORDERED, that it be referred to the Trinity House to examine that matter and see right done to his Majesty therein.

An account being given to his Majesty and my Lords of the effects of Colonel Legge's care and dispatch in his putting matters into a posture of safety at Portsmouth under the Dutch and French ships being at present in that harbour²; ORDERED, that his proposition of having some guns mounted for a battery upon 2 of the ships in ordinary there³ be put in speedy execution.

ORDERED, that the Session of the Admiralty be held on the 10th January next, and that in the absence of Sir Leo[line] Jenkins⁴ the same be held by Sir Thomas Exton,⁵ there being no new commission necessary for the same. ORDERED also, that the French captain that offered the affront to Sir John Berry be timely sent for

¹ *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3600.

² See 19th December.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3605, 3614.

⁴ He was at the congress of Nimeguen; see *D. N. B.*, xxix. 302.

⁵ A judge of the admiralty; see *D. N. B.*, xviii. 98. Sir Thomas Exton was also master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

up from Plymouth¹ to be tried for the same at this Session, Mr. Pepys being directed to inform the counsel² in the case, and to assist in the finding out as many of Sir John Berry's men and officers as are necessary to give evidence therein.³

A fresh petition⁴ being read from the fishermen of Walfleet, the giving answer thereto was respited till the return of the Judge of the Admiralty's opinion upon the proceedings of the Court of Vice-Admiralty lately held there; Which matter giving occasion to the Secretary of the Admiralty to note to his Majesty and my Lords that the controversy now on foot between the said fishermen and the Lord FitzWalter,⁵ wherein his Majesty himself is also greatly concerned in reference to the right of Burnham Water, is but one particular instance of the many ill effects of his Majesty's being prevailed with to grant away (as a thing of course in common with other things) the rights of wrecks, deodands, and other benefits appertaining to the Admiral upon the sea coasts without the privity of the Admiral, the same was thought a matter of so much consideration, in behalf both of the King and the Lord High Admiral, as that it was ordered by his Majesty, by advice of my Lords, that general *caveats* should be lodged with the Secretaries of State, Attorney-General, and Signet and Privy Seal officers, that no grants do pass from his Majesty of anything wherein the Admiral's right or authority is concerned till the Admiral is first acquainted therewith, as the Lord Treasurer and other Great Officers respectively are in what appertains to their affairs.

ORDERED also, that the Lord Almoner's grant particularised by Mr. Pepys, wherein the Lord Admiral's rights are, in common with other things, given away, to be enquired into.

Mr. Baylie's petitions⁶ being considered afresh, he is ordered to have allowance for overwork, but 'as of his Majesty's mere bounty, it being done for his service,' and not 'as of right as due to him by his contract.'

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3612.

² MS. 'Councill.'

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3640, 3643.

⁴ See 1st July.

⁵ MS. 'Fitzwater.'

⁶ See 16th December.

Captain Canning¹ is to be recommended to my Lord Treasurer by letter for the payment of a bill of his before his going to sea in the James galley.

The Navy Officers are directed to treat with Colonel Ewbank, and agree with him as well as they can for the price of his new-invented fire-hearths² now first set up in the galley-frigates.

Complaint being brought by some of the masters of the watermen sent on board the said galleys, that notwithstanding the said young men were chosen at a public Hall, in pursuance of the King's Order in Council, as also viewed by some of the Principal Officers of the Navy themselves and approved of by them, several of the said young watermen (to their great discouragement) being desirous to serve his Majesty, and to the injuries of their masters, who have been at charge in furnishing them for the seas, are sent back from on board their ships, while worse men are entered and kept; ORDERED, that a severe check be sent from the Lords to the said commanders, and the said discharged watermen returned with an injunction to the said commanders to receive them for that voyage.

The Navy Officers having reported what Captain Betts's wages would have amounted to,² a sum 'of about the like value' is to be paid him.

A report from the Officers of the Navy being read, complaining that the victuallers of the navy do, without warrant and contrary to contract, continue the practice of issuing oatmeal³ instead of fish, which was some years since admitted as a present expedient only for supplying the want of fish, then not to be had; RESOLVED, that notice be thereof taken to the victuallers, censuring them for what they have done and enjoining them the use of fish according to contract for the future, His Majesty deeming it a matter of public consideration that the fishing-trade of this nation be encouraged by all that the consumption of fish within his own disposal can do towards it.

¹ See 25th November.

² See 16th December.

³ MS. 'issuing out meal.'

ORDERED, that Lynch the purser, 'whose condition is shewn to be very necessitous,' receive temporary relief until Mr. Speaker makes his report.¹

JANUARY 20, 1676-7

[*Present*: Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

An Order of Council being read touching the protections of the fishery at Hastings, from whence complaint is made that our fishermen of that place are interrupted therein by the French vessels coming over, contrary to practice, without licence, and with unlawful nets, And it being considered that the case belong[s] strictly to Cinque Ports and comes not within the direction properly of the said Lord Admiral of England; It was referred to Mr. Pepys to get the best information he can touching the practice of the said ports in this case heretofore by conferring with Colonel Strode,² overlooking the late Lord Wardens' books, and what other means he can find, and to report the same to this Board.

Mr. Pepys reports to the Lords, by a particular calendar, the proceedings of the late Session of the Admiralty.³

A petition of Metefoux⁴ the Frenchman being read, praying the discharge of his vessel for some time detained, the same was granted.

The owners of the Prosperous pink to be compensated for victuals, medicines, etc., supplied by the said pink for the relief of the company of the Speedwell.

An Order of Council read touching a pass to be granted to the Charles, a vessel of Jersey, and ORDERED, that the party soliciting the same do shew an exemplification of Sir John Shaw's⁵ former certificate of her freedom, and in case it proves not to be one of the suspected

¹ See 4th November.

² Governor of Dover Castle; see *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3847, 3851.

³ Held on 10th January; see minute of 23rd December.

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 2996; MS. 'Metefew.'

⁵ Collector of customs for the port of London.

warrants obtained for freedoms of ships, she shall have a pass.

Dr. Lloyd brings his report upon the proceeding of the late¹ Court of Vice-Admiralty at Walfleet,² which being read, the late petition of the fishermen there was also read, and ORDERED, that the King be acquainted with this report, and moved that the stop to the *quo warranto* be taken off.

His Majesty is pleased to send a message to my Lords to let them know that he has given order for £500 to be presently advanced from his privy purse to the Treasurer of the Navy towards the building a new yacht³ which he designs to have built by Mr. Pett at Woolwich, and that it is his pleasure their Lordships do speedily issue their orders necessary for the said yacht's being put in hand.

In order to the putting an end to the dispute raised by the officers of the ordinary at Chatham touching the construction of the late rules given in favour of the said officers in their attendance on board their ships in harbour, It is declared that the said rules do respect only to the determining their watching on board, and are not to be interpreted to make any alteration in what the practice of the navy was before the date of the said rules in reference to their attendance by day.

A proposition being read from Mr. Sleighter, master-ropemaker at Chatham, touching his reading a public mathematical lecture at stated times for the information of the youth in and about that place belonging to the navy, upon some small encouragement to be granted him by his Majesty towards the same; ORDERED, that the said proposal be referred to the Officers of the Navy for their report touching the usefulness and charge of the said proposal.

Mr. Pepys having, by command (some time since) of the Lords, made known by letter to Sir John Bankes,⁴ to be communicated to the rest of the East India Company,

¹ MS. 'Idle.'

² See 23rd December.

³ Probably the Charlotte, built at Woolwich by Mr. Phineas Pett in 1677.

⁴ See the letter of 2nd December, 1676 (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 3531). On Sir John Bankes, see note to *ib.*, No. 2825.

the public inconveniency arising from their wearing colours on board their ships different from those worn by any other of his Majesty's subjects, and contrary to his Majesty's late proclamation on that behalf, and pressing them therefore that they will either conform themselves to his Majesty's said proclamation and what is done by all others of his Majesty's subjects, or shew to their Lordships the importance of their being dispensed with therein and pray a dispensation, A letter was this day read from Sir William Thompson,¹ in the name of the whole Company, shewing that they have considered of what is expected from them in this matter, and are contented to conform themselves to the letter of his Majesty's proclamation by wearing the same colours upon their ships which are therein directed, and commonly worn by the rest of his Majesty's subjects.

The purser of the *Speedwell* presenting particulars,² his petition is allowed.

EODEM DIE

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Craven; Lord Chancellor; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

It being observed to his Majesty that during the stay of the Dutch men-of-war at Portsmouth³ the officers and men there were put to double duty in watching for the safety of his Majesty's ships in harbour there, and that the said Dutch ships are now departed; ORDERED, that the said double duty be now discharged.

The Navy Officers' report read about Colonel Ewbank's new-invented fire-hearths⁴ and the prices demanded by the said Colonel for them. ORDERED, that for the two that are set up in the galleys the Officers of the Navy do allow him the prices given him for the like hearths by merchantmen, making a contract with him upon the like term for one year.

My Lord Treasurer informing his Majesty that upon

¹ On Alderman Sir William Thompson, see note to *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3611.

² See 16th December.

³ See 12th December.

⁴ See 23rd December.

discoursing with some of the present contractors for victualling the navy, and particularly with Sir Denny Ashburnham, he is informed and thoroughly convinced that not through any other defect of Sir Denis Gauden's but the low condition of his fortune, occasioned by his want of payment for his past services, the present contractors are not to be depended upon for the carrying on his Majesty's future service even as the naval action now is, and therefore much less in case it should grow greater, and that therefore, there being several offers made by other persons of known credits and estates who will presently enter upon the said employment upon the terms of the contract now in being, and with a condition intimated of their being willing at any time to give his Majesty credit to a considerable sum (viz., about £20,000 or £30,000), And it being shewn that this is the time for making any such alteration in case his Majesty shall think to do it this year because of the season for providing of victuals and the appointment now to be made to the victuallers; His Majesty was pleased to assign Monday next in the afternoon for the receiving of any new proposals in relation to this matter, notice to be given thereof to Sir Denis Gauden, and Mr. Pepys directed to communicate to any of the gentlemen who designed to be offerers and shall desire it the terms of the present contract of the victuallers of the navy.

JANUARY 22, 1676-7

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Navy Officers attending.]

According to his Majesty's order the last sitting,¹ by which this day was appointed for receiving any offers that should be proposed for the victualling his Majesty's navy, My Lord Treasurer began with acquainting his Majesty that whereas he had the last day intimated to his Majesty that there were several parcels of bidders for the undertaking, he had not yet received anything

¹ MS. 'setting.'

in writing for more than one, namely, Mr. Kent and partners concerned in the excise, which his Lordship producing was read.

It being then moved that the body of the present victuallers might be heard in reference to what (if anything) they may have to say upon this matter before any alteration be made therein, My Lord Treasurer was pleased to second and forward the same, speaking with great respect to the present victuallers and with particular tenderness and justice towards Sir Denis Gauden, as having no particular exception either to him or them, otherwise than as his necessities (occasioned by the King's service) gave cause to disagreements between them, to the lessening the general credit of their action, and so made it necessary for his Majesty to look after the preservation of his service by committing this affair to other hands, that may be depended upon in their estates for a thorough compliance in their service, such as the present proposers are, who, though they have not mentioned any particular sum in their proposal, have yet intimated to his Lordship their admitting to give his Majesty credit in their bargain as far as £20,000 or £30,000; ORDERED, that Saturday next be appointed¹ for the present contractors and new proposers to attend his Majesty here for his further debating this matter, Sir Thomas Clutterbuck being also to do the like, forasmuch as the new proposers offer at the whole victualling as well within the Straits as elsewhere.²

A petition of [Sir] William Warren³ being this day exhibited and read, praying that something may be done for his relief against the disquiet occasioned by the long dependence of his accounts for naval stores supplied his Majesty, and the matter being opened as much as a matter of so much perplexity and long dependence could on the sudden be, My Lord Treasurer informed his Majesty and my Lords that he has for some time had these

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3689.

² This is the beginning of the negotiation which resulted in the new victualling contract of 31st December, 1677, fully described in *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 165-178.

³ Sir William Warren, the timber contractor, on whom see Pepys's *Diary*, *passim*.

accounts of Sir William Warren under examination before him, with objections exhibited thereto by Sir Richard Ford,¹ and that by the advice of 2 of the Barons of the Exchequer he hath ordered it to be examined in that Court, which is the method ordinarily taken with other accountants, and therefore it is now under and must pass the Exchequer examination. And so his Majesty and my Lords thought fit to leave it, without giving any other answer to the said petitioner.

JANUARY 27, 1676[-7]

[*Present*: The King; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker.]

ORDERED, That a bounty of £10 be given to the widow of the late chamber-keeper of the Robes towards her relief, over and above what she shall have right to demand for fire or any other disbursements upon occasion of this Board.

The Lord FitzWalter² having by his solicitor desired a copy of Dr. Lloyd's report touching the business of Walfleet,³ and their Lordships finding cause of apprehending that the same is intended in order only to some litigious use to be made thereof to the vexing of the poor fishermen; RESOLVED, that a copy be not given him of the said report, but that, since by his solicitor he seems to desire it, the whole matter be heard here before his Majesty upon a day when Dr. Lloyd and Sir John Bramston may be in the way to attend it.

His Majesty being petitioned by Wyard a seaman, fined at the Session of the Admiralty in a hundred marks⁴ for abusing his master and making of mutiny in their ship, to the necessitating the master to leap overboard for his security, and consideration being had of the severity⁵ necessary to be expressed in this case for the preservation of discipline, universally complained of to

¹ Sir Richard Ford the merchant, on whom see Pepys's *Diary*, *passim*.

² MS. 'Fitz-Water.'

⁴ MS. 'merks.'

³ See 20th January.

⁵ MS. 'security.'

be lost among the seamen of England; His Majesty was pleased wholly to reject the petition.

A petition being presented by one Mr. Townley for a yacht to convey over a vessel to Cadiz, the petition not granted as to a yacht, but answered that a frigate shall be appointed to do it as soon as the readiness of the ship to come over is certainly known.

Referred to the Trinity House the examination of Captain Gunman's¹ complaint touching the ill-keeping of the light at the North Foreland, and the sounding of the Narrow.

The Lord Treasurer being indisposed and thereby prevented in his attending on his Majesty this day about the business of the victualling, That matter was put off till his Lordship will be well.

Beverly, the smith of Portsmouth, petitioning that he may be paid part of his debt from his Majesty by old iron lying there in store, is denied, for avoiding the partiality of doing more for him than might be with equal right expected by every other creditor to the navy.

Lieutenant Long, 1st lieutenant under Sir John Narbrough,² praying that he may have a gratuity equal with those that were employed upon the action at Tripoli, he having offered his service and being as forward as any to go, but was ordered by Sir John Narbrough to stay on board for looking after his Majesty's service there in his absence, is refused,³ as having in fact done no more than the ordinary duty of his place required, and as there is no precedent past for such an allowance, so may the granting it now be rendered a very chargeable one to his Majesty in time to come.

Colonel Ewbank pressing for ready money for the two fire-hearths now first set up by him in the galleys; ORDERED, that the same be granted him by special warrant, his Majesty being pleased to declare that he had personally promised him such payments when first he directed him to set them up, but that for the future he expect no other payment than that of course, as others trading with the navy do.

¹ Commander of the *Anne* yacht.

² William Long was 1st lieutenant of the *Harwich*.

³ MS. 'returned.'

ORDERED, That Sir William Poole forthwith do satisfy his purser with ready money for the victuals supplied by his order to the supernumeraries borne upon his ship beyond the King's order at Sir Jonathan Atkins his importunity¹ in his voyage to the Barbado's, Sir William Poole being left to recover satisfaction for the same from Sir Jonathan Atkins as he shall be able.

A report from the Officers of the Navy being read touching Mr. Beverley's disappointment about money, he being carried into Algier in the Quaker ketch as he was going with the *bonavoglios*² from Tangier to Italy; ORDERED, That Mr. Martin, the Consul at Argier, be writ for an account of the money.

Upon a letter from the Mayor of Portsmouth touching a denial made of the payment of some parish duties by some officers of the King's yard; ORDERED, that the examination of matter of fact, and accommodating of the matter between the King's officers and those of the parish according to what has been the ancient practice of the navy, be referred to the Navy Officers.

Mr. Serjeant Trumpet soliciting in behalf of himself and the rest of the trumpets for present payment of what is in arrear to them for their service at the launching of ships; ORDERED, that they stay to be paid in course, according to the rules of the navy.

Mr. Pepys reports to their Lordships that upon his informing Sir Thomas Chicheley³ in what he had some time since understood from Harwich touching the powder stopped there, Sir Thomas Chicheley let him know that the said powder had been sold by himself, and that therefore the same ought to have passed without molestation.

His Majesty being informed that application had been made by the city of Chichester for the assistance of his men and slaves from Portsmouth to weigh some vessels that lately sunk by stress of weather in the mouth of that river, to the endangering the whole navigation of the said river in case the said vessels be not timely weighed; ORDERED, that if it be desired, and that that

¹ See 11th November.

² See note on p. 279 above. MS. 'bonovolioes.'

³ Master-general of the ordnance.

will satisfy the said city, His Majesty would send an officer from Portsmouth instructed to blow up the bodies of the said sunken vessels, as the speediest, cheapest, and most effectual method of the clearing the said river of them.

It being observed to his Majesty that whereas his Majesty hath been pleased to promise a medal in reward to each of the commanders of the boats employed in the late action under Sir John Narbrough against Tripoli,¹ and that his Majesty's direction was become necessary to be expressly delivered touching the value of the said medals, for that Lieutenant Shovell had obtained a medal from his Majesty upon account of that service above the value of any hitherto given by his Majesty for any other service, and it being upon inquiry found that the same did arise by the said Lieutenant Shovell's applying himself to his Majesty for the same by hands unacquainted with the practice of the navy in like cases; His Majesty was pleased to declare his being surprised in that matter and to signify his being dissatisfied therewith, and to order that from henceforth no medals nor rewards of this kind be granted but at the public Board of the Admiralty, This having passed through the hand of my Lord Chamberlain² without their knowledge, and that the value of the medal granted by this surprise to Lieutenant Shovell,³ amounting to about £100, be not brought into precedent, but that those [to] be given to the residue of the officers concerning that action be proportioned according to the values of the medals heretofore given by his Majesty in other cases.

ORDERED by his Majesty, that the place of Vice-Admiral for Devonshire, vacant by the death of Sir John Fowell, be conferred on Sir Edward Seymour.⁴

¹ See 9th November.

² The Earl of Arlington.

³ MS. here 'Schovell,' but usually 'Shovell.'

⁴ The 3rd baronet; he was the father of 'Mr. Speaker.'

FEBRUARY 3, 1676-7

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker.]

ORDERED, that Mr. Garland,¹ one of the condemned persons of the late rebellion, now brought from Tangier in the Quaker ketch upon account of his contributing to the many present disagreements and animosities there, be delivered over prisoner to Southsea Castle.

My Lord Treasurer putting his Majesty in mind of what had lately been offered in order to the making a sure provision for the carrying on the victualling of the navy, produces a letter to him from Sir Denis Gauden which was read, and wherein Sir D. G. endeavours to clear himself in the matter complained by Sir Denny Ashburnham touching their and their partners' inability to go on with the victualling contract. Which being read, and after that the general petition of the said contractors, My Lord Treasurer informs his Majesty of what moment the personal credit of the victuallers of the navy is to their action, and how little that of the present victuallers is in time of action to be relied upon. After which the Secretary of the Admiralty opening to his Majesty and my Lords the terms of the present contract, by which the victuallers have a right to a full year's warning, Next, that it was now very late to change the hands of the victualling for the current year, as also that great preparation of provision appears by Sir Anthony Deane's last report ² to have been already made by the present victuallers towards this year's service, That the action is likely to be so small at sea this year as that, consideration being had to the said preparations, little doubt can be made of their being able to supply the remainder, And lastly, that he believed that the present victuallers would, upon his Majesty's motion, forbear to insist upon the strictness of the contract for a year's notice, and might (if his Majesty thought good) be persuaded to

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3724, 3731.

² Sir Anthony Deane had succeeded Sir Jeremy Smyth as comptroller of victualling, 25th November, 1675.

accept of warning this day to resign up their pretences to the benefit of the said contract beyond Michaelmas next, when would be the properest time for treating for a new one ; My Lord Treasurer was pleased to propose the continuing Sir D. Gauden and the present contractors to Michaelmas next, provided that Sir D. Gauden would declare and the rest of his fellow-contractors their acceptance of this warning to be discharged of their contract at Michaelmas next, which being done, upon their being called in to the Board to that purpose, and Sir D. Gauden undertaking upon his word that Sir Denny Ashburnham was contented to continue in the victualling action along with him, and that the whole service of the current year should be carried on without any interruption from any disability, disagreement, or want of credit on their part ; It was RESOLVED mutually, between my Lords on behalf of the King and Sir Denis Gauden and others present, that this notice upon this day should be accepted as sufficient warning to authorise the King to proceed to the treating for a new contract with them or any others at Michaelmas next, and that they in the mean time should go on in victualling his Majesty's ships to that time according to their present contract.

The Lords taking into their debate the late matter complained of by the Navy Office of the victuallers continuing to issue oatmeal instead of fish,¹ to the great discouragement of the fishing-trade ; RESOLVED, that it be left to the direction of the Navy Officers and desire of commanders, who (and particularly Sir John Narbrough) doth declare oatmeal to be wholesome victuals as to the charge thereof, provided the proportion between the quantity of the one and the other be from time to time duly set, and in that the victuallers declare themselves willing to submit at all times to what shall be satisfaction to the Commissioners of the Navy.

After this, the business of the chaplains of the navy being by the late direction of the Lords² opened to his Majesty, with the ill effects of the present want of a regulation therein with regard to the honour of God Almighty, to his Majesty, and the preservation of sobriety

¹ See 23rd December.

² See 2nd December.

and good discipline in his fleet, all of which at this day suffer under the liberty left to captains either to carry no chaplains or ill, illiterate ones, while the poor seaman at the same time contributes his 4*d.* per month out of his pay whether he has any spiritual benefit from a chaplain or not, this only caution being provided in the case, that where there is no chaplain the groats are not swallowed up with account but applied to the relief of the poor of the Chest at Chatham¹; his Majesty, with the advice of my Lords, was, upon a full debate thereon had, pleased to determine that for the future:—

1st., That care be taken, as much as may be, that no ship or vessel of his Majesty's do go to sea without a chaplain.

2dly., That no chaplain be employed till he hath first been approved of by his Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury or the Bishop of London.

3dly., That no chaplain be entertained on board any of his Majesty's ships but by particular warrant from his Majesty, grounded upon a certificate either of the said Archbishop or Bishop of their having approved of the said person as fit and qualified for thus doing the office of chaplain in any of his Majesty's ships.

4thly., That upon any determination taken by his Majesty or the Lords of the Admiralty for setting to sea any of his Majesty's ships, and no chaplain at the same time desiring to serve in the same (that is to say, a chaplain formerly approved of by one or other of my said Lords the Bishops, whose approvals are not to be repeated upon the same man), the Secretary of the Admiralty is to give notice to either or both of their Lordships in order to their recommending by their approvals some fitting persons to serve as chaplain on board the said ships.

5thly., and lastly, That forasmuch as the maintenance of the chaplain ariseth wholly (seamen's wages and victuals excepted) out of the seamen's pay, regard shall

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 205 *n.* For an account of this reform in the provision of chaplains, and subsequent developments, see *ib.* i. 205-8; but the reorganisation was evidently earlier than is there stated, at any rate in its main features.

be had in the nomination of chaplains to the desire of commanders in behalf of himself and company in preference to any other, provided the person proposed by the said commanders either has formerly or shall upon his present application to the said Lords Bishops obtain their or either of their certificates of approbation.

FEBRUARY 10, 1676[-7]

[*Present*: The King; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker.]

The number of the Francis's complement is, upon the Navy Officers' report, raised for the present service to 45.¹

His Majesty being again moved in the case of Wyard lately mentioned,² and consideration had of the greatness of his crime and the ill consequence if slightly remitted; RESOLVED, that he be still continued in prison.

Sir Thomas Allen³ and others, merchants, desiring a pass for a ship by them bought, to bring her out from Sardam⁴ for England, are denied either to have their request granted or recommended from hence to the Council Table, as is designed by them; It being contrary to rule and judged unfit to be admitted.

More supplies ORDERED to be made to the Dutch ship or two remaining at Portsmouth.⁵

Application being made by one Parsons, or somebody in his absence and behalf, for a reward for some extraordinary action said to be by him performed at sea; ORDERED, that a narrative of the said action, very well attested, be brought before my Lords [to] be lodged here in memory thereof, Upon which his Majesty is pleased to declare his pleasure that a medal be given him.

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3697, 3728, 3761. The Francis was a 6th-rate stationed in the Downs. ² 27th January.

³ Probably Sir Thomas Alleyne, a former lord mayor of London. ⁴ Possibly Sardinia (Sardaigne).

⁵ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3714, 3733.

Leave granted Sir Richard Beach¹ at his desire to come from Chatham to town for 10 days upon some important private occasions.

ORDERED, That an allowance be made to Mrs. Petty, widow of Mr. Petty formerly purser in the navy, of the supernumeraries which appear in his account, it appearing that they were victualled by his commander's order, and his Royal Highness remembering his having signified his order to the said commander by Sir William Coventry² for his entertaining and victualling the same.

Mr. Garland,³ the prisoner lately come from Tangier, ordered to Southsea Castle, and Mr. Secretary Williamson directed by the King to provide his warrant to Colonel Legge for his being received there accordingly.

Captain Pinn⁴ his failures in his performance of the Lord High Admiral's Instructions excused, upon his letter being read and his submitting himself to be tried by a court-martial; Sir Thomas Allin⁵ also owning that none of the commanders of the yachts have heretofore done their duty as to the keeping their muster-books, though now they do.

Captain Williams⁶ also excused in his non-compliance with his Instructions, his defence being that he did duly muster his ship's company but had not opportunity of sending his books; and that, as to the false rating of a man charged upon him by the Officers of the Navy, he justifies it by the said man's having been heretofore turned over to another ship where he was rated and paid as an able seaman.

Captain Wood also his petition for the like failure was granted, upon the express account of his late losses in the Speedwell. But here it being opened to his Majesty and my Lords, and the same largely urged by my Lords themselves, that this his Majesty's indulgence to commanders neglecting the study and execution of

¹ Resident commissioner of the navy at Chatham.

² From 1660 to 1667 Coventry had been the Duke of York's private secretary.

³ MS. and *margin*: 'Gardner,' but see 3rd February and *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3731.

⁴ Late commander of the Cleveland yacht.

⁵ Comptroller of the navy.

⁶ Late commander of the Holmes fireship.

my Lord Admiral's Orders is most fatal to his service, and the great occasion of the breach of discipline in his whole fleet and waste of his treasure, and that it is both necessary and at this time of the year most seasonable for his Majesty to declare to the commanders of the ships that shall be sent abroad that he doth expect that commanders do most strictly comply with their Instructions, It was ORDERED, that from henceforward his Majesty's pleasure be signified in an especial manner to each commander that he will expect from henceforth the full compliance with the said Instructions, and that upon their failure therein their wages shall be forfeited, and immediately upon the coming of their ships to be laid up paid to the poor of the Chest at Chatham.

Memorandum. That to prevent any misconstruction of this his Majesty's resolution, as if it implied any general forgiveness of what omissions hath passed to this day, Sir Thomas Allin, upon moving that that might be declared to imply such a general remission, was checked therein by his Majesty and my Lords with an observation that his kinsman Captain London in the Norwich was now coming home, and a declaration made expressly that this was not to be taken for forgiving anything past, but that commanders were to be sentenced for the same as upon the report of the P[rincipal] O[fficers] in the form now used they shall be found to have done their duties better or worse in the observations of the Lord High Admiral's Instructions.

Complaint being made of one of the late pressed watermen running away from the galley wherein he was to serve¹; ORDERED, that he be laid by the heels and tried by a court-martial.

The case of old Captain Bonamy being opened, it appears by certificates that he has served in the late and in his present Majesty's service at sea ever since the Isle of Rhé voyage,² but for the most part as a midshipman or under, he never appearing to have served as captain in any of the King's ships, in the Bull, 1667,³ and the True Love, 1672, both fireships, so as that it

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3703.

² 1627. MS. 'Ree.'

³ MS. has 1677 in error.

may be a dangerous precedent to give him a constant pension out of the navy for his life as a superannuated officer, if it shall entitle a man that has but once got a command to idle away his time till he be old, in dependence upon his Majesty's maintaining him when he is old. It was determined that Captain Bonamy might be esteemed a fit object of his Majesty's grace and bounty to him in his old age, but that nothing ought to be done that should entitle the King to any such future chargeable consequences.

The like judged upon a petition of old Captain Shelley,¹ though his pretences in no proportion answering those of Captain Bonamy's, forasmuch as though Captain Shelley was long at sea in the State service he never commanded at sea in the King's but one year, viz., 1664.

Clarke, a master of a merchantman, appearing to answer to an information touching his having neglected to pay his duty as he ought to do to his Majesty's flag on the ship Kingfisher, and it being found that he did strike to the said ship but that there had passed very provoking words on both sides between the King's officers and the said master, he the said master was excused and discharged.

ORDERED, that a copy of the Navy Officers' letter be sent to Mr. Speaker touching the general repairs of the King's ships, and particularly the Charles, with their estimate thereof also, in order to his representing the same to the Lord Treasurer.²

Captain Atkins, late commander of the Quaker ketch, being now coming home prisoner from Tangier to answer for his default about suffering himself to be carried in with his ketch to Algier, and praying now that forasmuch as he is at present greatly indisposed by sickness he may have leave to go directly to his own house, there to remain till he be in a condition of appearing abroad; ORDERED, that the same be granted, and that his being called to account for his said misbehaviour be respited till he shall be in a condition of health to answer for the same.³

¹ MS. 'Shelly.' The reference is to Captain Giles Shelley.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3740, 3742.

³ See *ib.*, No. 3814.

A letter from Major Darell¹ being read, desiring the present payment of what is due in arrear of pay to the Sheerness yacht, that for the time to come the said yacht be paid as the yard there is; ORDERED, that the same be done, and Mr. Speaker would take care to solicit my Lord Treasurer that the arrears of the said yacht be speedily satisfied.

ORDERED, that the Governor of Plymouth² do send up an account of the particular disbursements of the 2 men³ sent up by him with the French captain.

The bond to be delivered up to the master of Mr. Spry's ship.

ORDERED, That Lieutenant Hodder's pay be made up captain's for the time he did the duty of captain on board the *Guarland* in the absence and sickness of his commander, Captain Lassells.

ORDERED, That the desire of Mr. May, that he may have leave to cull out of his Majesty's store of the navy any extraordinary deals that he shall judge fit for the service of his Majesty's house at Windsor,⁴ he paying the navy the value thereof in ready money at the price they cost the navy, [be granted].

MARCH 22, 1676[-7]

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty was pleased this day to take into consideration the present debates in Parliament for building the 30 ships,⁵ though the bill for raising money for going in hand with the same cannot probably be finished

¹ MS. 'Dorell.' Major Nathaniel Darell was Governor of Sheerness.

² Colonel Piper.

³ *I.e.*, the two soldiers who escorted Peter Geraudeau up to London for trial: see *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3612, 3650, 3706, 3738, 3750.

⁴ Mr. Hugh May was comptroller of the works at Windsor. On the extensive alterations made there by Charles II, see Sir W. St. John Hope, *Windsor Castle*, i. 305 ff.

⁵ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 48-54; iii. p. xlv; *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3754.

in some time yet to come. Yet his Majesty, considering the approaching season for felling and providing timber, and in general that no time ought to be lost in the dispatch of this important work, was pleased to recommend to the Officers of the Navy, now present, the doing all that can be done previous thereto by enquiring how and where materials of all sorts, both home and foreign, may be had, when they shall be put in a condition by money to go to market for the same.

He also recommends to them the timely considering the distributing the said ships to the several building-places,¹ proposing that ships may be launched as soon as their hulls are in a condition of being put on float (leaving their finishing work to be done there), that so others may be brought upon the stocks. They are also directed to be thinking of the number and weight of guns for a ship of each rate, and the best principal dimensions and scantlings to be established therein, and care taken that each builder's draughts be well viewed and approved before they be put in execution, likewise to be providing purveyors to send abroad to look out for timber, and lastly to think and propose anything to my Lords timely which they think may conduce to the effectual and speedy dispatch of this work.²

ORDERED, that the Navy Office have orders now sent to them to fit out the ships for the present summer's guard.

ORDERED also, that they do propose to his Majesty some 5th or small 4th-rate vessels to attend the Barbadoes, and another ketch or small vessel to do the like among the Leeward Islands, for carrying or bringing of intelligence and answering other occasions which seem at this time in an especial manner necessary to be provided for.

Mr. Pepys shewing his Majesty and my Lords a memorial from the Dutch Ambassador, complaining of Sir Robert Robinson's demanding some English seamen

¹ The distribution ultimately adopted is given in *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 223.

² If these two minutes are considered in connexion with Pepys's letter to the navy board of 23rd February (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 3754), it appears probable that the far-sighted policy which they recommend originated with Pepys himself, in consultation with the experts who composed that board.

serving in a man-of-war of the States now at Cadiz, and it appearing that every commander is by my Lord Admiral's standing Instructions both authorised and obliged so to do, and the allowed practice in the navy at all times ; It was declared that Sir Robert Robinson was to be justified in what he had done, as having done but his duty therein.

ORDERED, that the Yarmouth, lately come from the Straits and designed to be laid up, be directed to stay in the Downs for improving his Majesty's present force there until other ships designed for that station shall come to relieve her.¹

His Majesty acquaints the Navy Officers that he had appointed young Lawrence,² son of Mr. Lawrence the shipwright's assistant at Chatham, to build a small vessel in imitation³ of [a] brigantine, to be paid for out of his privy purse.

His Majesty being moved for the £500 he was pleased to promise towards the yacht a-building at Woolwich by Mr. Pett,⁴ answers that he will give order to Mr. May to pay it presently.⁵

Colonel Piper's information from Plymouth read, touching injuries done to a subject's vessel of his Majesty's by an Ostend privateer,⁶ and ORDERED to be reported to the Council to-morrow.

The like of Captain Carverth's information in the Francis touching some Frenchmen that offered him an affront⁷ ; he is directed to describe them, that they may be known and course taken for their being looked out for and brought in.

ORDERED, [that] the arrears of the wages due to the Isle of Wight under the direction of Sir Robert Holmes⁸ be speedily satisfied.

A report of the Officers of the Navy being read

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3801, 3802, 3828.

² See *ib.*, No. 3796.

³ MS. 'intimation.'

⁴ The Charlotte, built at Woolwich by Mr. Phineas Pett, and launched in 1677.

⁵ Immediately. Mr. Baptista May was the keeper of the privy purse.

⁶ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3788.

⁷ See *ib.*, No. 3813.

⁸ Vice-admiral of Hampshire and governor of the Isle of Wight; see *D. N. B.*, xxvii. 194.

upon these 2 points : First, what is fit to be established for the doing right between his Majesty, [the] Treasurer of the Navy, and the seamen, in case of tickets paid to wrong parties ¹ ; Second, a seaman forfeiting his wages earned in a former ship upon his running away from a latter. Touching the former of which points, his Majesty and my Lords do fully agree with the opinion of the said Officers, and ORDERED to be accordingly established, And as to the latter, do likewise determine that a seaman that runs away from the service shall forfeit no more than the wages earned in the said ship from whence he runs, and be liable to be tried by a court-martial for his deserting the service, which last is judged necessary for that no man's service can be depended upon beyond a day if the forfeiture of that day's wages shall be all his penalty for running away. But in the limiting his wages to be forfeited to the ship from whence he runs, It is to be understood where the former ship in which he served and from whence he has money due to him ² be actually paid off, for then it is to be supposed that had he been permitted to continue upon his said ship he had received his wages, and consequently could not have forfeited it. But where the said former ship happens not to be paid off, there he is still to be supposed as serving still upon the same ship in reference to his title to payment, and consequently he is subject to the forfeiture thereof in case of his running away from a latter as if he had runned from his former ship.

N[avy] O[fficers'] report read about Captain Gallop's failure in the performance of the Admiral's Instructions, and he excused therein for his having his commission at sea from his Highness Prince Rupert,³ Mr. Baron being his secretary,⁴ without any instructions given him with the said commission.

N[avy] O[fficers'] report read of the 28th February about going in hand with repairs, and a copy thereof ordered to be sent to Mr. Speaker, with direction to them to enter as many men as they have materials to employ them.

¹ See Hollond, *Discourses of the Navy* (N.R.S., vii.), p. 129.

² MS. 'them.'

³ Prince Rupert's commission to Captain George Gallop to command the *Thomas* and *Francis* was issued in 1672.

⁴ Hartgill Baron, secretary to Prince Rupert.

APRIL 8, 1677

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Arlington¹; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

The Secretary of the Admiralty praying direction for answering the requests of the fishermen of Hastings,² complaining, as formerly, of the injuries done them by the French interrupting their fishery; It was committed to Mr. Secretary Coventry to send to the Cinque Ports (it being a matter relating to that jurisdiction³ and not the Admiralty) for an account of the old limitations used to be put upon the French and others in their proceedings in that fishing, and ORDERED, that when the ships designed for the Downs squadron be at sea, two of them be employed to be sent to forbid the French to fish upon our coasts as having no licences thereto, and drive them away from thence.

Discourse being had of the dissatisfaction conceived by the Grand Duke of Florence from his not being saluted at Leghorn⁴ by Captain Russell in his Majesty's ship the Reserve as he was by ships of another nation then there, it was concluded that no instructions for salutes can be made to answer every particular occasion that may happen, but must therefore be left discretional. That Captain Russell was either on shore or under some resentments of ill usage such as his Majesty's ships have for a long time backward lain under, to his Majesty's great dishonour and injury to his service by occasioning the long stay of his ships in ports there, and particularly during the war with Tripoli, when they might have been at sea doing service.

That no order can be now sent to Captain Russell, he being upon his way home, but Mr. Secretary Coventry is to tell our Consul at Livorne that Captain Russell shall upon his arrival here be demanded an account of

¹ Usually entered as 'Lord Chamberlain.'

² See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3847, 3851.

³ See T. W. Fulton, *The Sovereignty of the Sea*, p. 544.

⁴ MS. 'Legorne' instead of the more usual 'Livorne.'

his want of saluting the person of the Duke when present upon the place while all other ships besides himself did.

Mr. Pepys acquaints his Majesty and their Lordships of a late accident happening by fire at Chatham yard,¹ to the endamaging the Leopard, then lying upon the ways there, but without much harm done. ORDERED, that the occasion of the fire be strictly inquired into by the Officers of the Navy.

MAY 1, 1677

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Despatches to go to Virginia by the Quaker ketch.²

His Majesty taking next into his consideration the business of the 30 ships to be built, is informed by the Officers of the Navy that they have not omitted any means of inquiring after materials of all sorts for the building of the said ships, which his Majesty enjoins them to persevere in their care in.

A late letter from the Lord Treasurer to the Officers of the Navy touching some principal heads relating to this work, pursuant to a late conference had by his Lordship with the said Officers and Secretary of the Admiralty at the Treasury Chamber, was now read, and several of the heads thereof discoursed and matters explained, but not so as to amount to any determinate answer to the said letter, which the Officers of the Navy do presume upon to give in in writing.

But together with the building of the new ships, the repair of the old ones and the dispatch thereof is concluded upon to be with no less sedulousness to be provided for and forwarded, for the putting his Majesty in a condition of having a fleet at sea if the same shall be called for before the new ones can be built. And in that consideration it was concluded most necessary that

¹ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3848, 3852, 3853.

² See *ib.*, No. 3904.

the number of ships (being about 32 or 33) whereof the Surveyor of the Navy lately gave a list to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and now read, as capable of being fully repaired within 12 weeks after order shall be given for the same, and no men and materials be wanting, should be instantly gone in hand with with all diligence.

His Majesty being informed by Mr. Pepys that though press warrants for seamen have been very rarely granted in time of peace, yet such is the scarcity of men now to be had, through the greatness of the merchant service and wages, that the commanders of the ships now going forth do generally declare that without the help of press warrants they shall not be able in any reasonable time to get their ships to sea, and the season of their being abroad spends apace; ORDERED, that a memorial thereof¹ be presented to the Council Table at their next sitting, with the like about press warrants for shipwrights and all other workmen needful for repairing the old and building the new ships.

It is recommended to the Officers of the Navy to consider of all the places capable of being employed in building any of the 30 ships, besides those of the King's yards, That his Majesty may have all the choice of places that can be found for building elsewhere so many of the said ships as hands and materials may be found for, over and above what may be built in the King's yards, which are first to be provided for.

It having been proposed by the Officers of the Navy to send Captain Betts, late master of the Europa hulk at Tangier and master attendant at that place, to go master in the Mountagu with Sir John Holmes,² His Majesty was pleased to consider of the said Betts's present employment as a gunner under Colonel Legge at Portsmouth, where his service may be more useful to him in case of any action, and was therefore pleased to direct that he be permitted to stay where he is, and some other person found by the Officers of the Navy to go as master with Sir John Holmes.

The Guarland appointed to transport Comte Rebenac³

¹ For this memorial see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3915.

² See *ib.*, No. 3920, and note.

³ Son of the French ambassador to Sweden; see *ib.*, No. 3932.

to Gottenburg and thence to Stralsund ¹ with some goods of the King of Sweden's.

Petition of Sir Thomas Lynch's ² being read touching some layings-out at Jamaica; ORDERED, to be referred to the Officers of the Navy.

MAY 5, 1677

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

It being taken into consideration touching the building of the 30 ships, that if it should so fall out that any part of the said number should fall short of being built by the sum given by the Parliament,³ it may be advisable that that shortness of number should lie in the 3rd-rates rather than in the 1st and 2nd, in which two it seems of most importance that the full number designed by the Act ⁴ be first provided for; It was determined that among the first ships that shall be set upon the stocks provision be made for building two 2nd-rates, one at Woolwich and the other at Portsmouth.

It was then observed that it being the intent of the Parliament that the full number of thirty be built, as deeming the present naval force of England to stand in need of such a supply, and that therefore preparation should not be made for any less number of hulls than that of 30, and that therefore if, after all the good husbandry and management to be used in the building of the said hulls, the money shall not hold out to do the whole that is required by the Parliament, the defect thereof should not operate to the lessening the number of the ships but in our falling short in the provision designed for furniture and stores.

The business of building or not building of these

¹ MS. 'Shalsondt.'

² Formerly governor of Jamaica, but recalled in 1676; see *D. N. B.*, xxxiv. 337.

³ £600,000.

⁴ 29 Car. II. c. 1.

ships by contract coming next into debate, his Majesty (with the general concurrence of the Lords and Officers of the Navy) inclining to the building of the whole by his own master-builders (if it can be obtained) rather than by contract, and that it would to that purpose be a less evil to have the dispatch of the said ships lie 6 or 8 months in hand the longer in building by his own hands than forward them so much the sooner by exposing them to contractors, whose interest it is, and cannot in any cases be th[o]roughly obviated by the care of any man who shall have the superintendency of the work (besides the possibility of his being tempted to connivance), to perform his work as slightly as he can, Whereas on the other hand, it cannot be of any profit to the King's own workmen to do so, but on the other hand are concerned in honour to build as well and strong as they can, forasmuch as they are by their offices tied to be in the way of their reproaches that shall attend the ill proof of their works, which the builder by contract meet[s] not with nor valueth when he has put his ship once out of his hand. To which inclination to the building of none or as few as may be by contract, is added the information this day given his Majesty by the Officers of the Navy that the merchant builders here in town have already demanded of them £11 per ton for 3rd-rates and have bought great quantity of timber, as also that it is evident to them that the King is likely (by all that appears yet) to have more room in his own yards to build on than they can depend upon timber to go to work with, at least till the repairs of the old ships be dispatched, which his Majesty and the Lords do most earnestly press for the forwarding of.

Sir Anthony Deane proposeth the making another launch at Harwich, so as that two 3rd-rate ships may be built there together; Which he offers as a consideration fit to be had in regard to the means of that place to the best supplies of timber to be expected out of Suffolk.

His Majesty recommends to the Officers of the Navy that the numbers and dimensions of ports, and all the principal sizes and measures requisite to be observed in the building of a ship and fitting her with masts, yards, blocks, etc., be one and the same in every of the new ships of the same rank, The conveniencies arising there-

from being most obviously great and many, as the inconveniences every day met with in time of action from the disproportions and unsizeableness in the present old fleet are and have always been.

His Majesty proceeding to discourse of the burthen of the ships, and declaring his opinion and pleasure that the principal consideration to be had as to the size of the ships be the pitching upon such dimensions as may render them by their force and build most capable of performing the service they are designed for ; The Officers of the Navy declared their doubt whether they could be safe in building ships of any such dimensions as by their largeness should call for so much money as not to leave them in a capacity of building the whole number of 30, and seem to have had the opinion of some counsel to confirm their doubt therein. To which it was observed, First, that that ¹ of Parliament restrains not the burthens and size of the ships upwards but only downwards ; Next, that nothing seems to be the mind of the Parliament by the letter of the Act where they appoint the penalties and forfeitures of office, but the preventing any diversion or misapplying to other uses any part of the money given to this of building ships, which is supposed the building of them of dimensions that upon advice are judged the most advantageous for the service of the nation, though it be accompanied with an increase of charge, cannot be construed to be, it being for the benefit of the public. To which his Majesty was pleased graciously to add that if such increase of charge should nevertheless be excepted against by Parliament (which he could not expect) he would rather choose to make it good out of his own purse than hazard the wronging the ships for want of it.

Sir Anthony Deane giving it as his plain opinion that, whatever we may do for straight, there is not compass timber enough to be had in England for the building of these ships,² It was recommended to the Navy Officers to look out timely for supply thereof from abroad.

¹ For ' that ' perhaps ' th' act ' should be read.

² In his speech in Parliament Pepys had already quoted Sir Anthony Deane to this effect (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 49). On the scarcity of timber, see *ib.*, i. 50 n.

The N[avy] O[fficers] tell my Lords that upon inviting the principal master-builders in the River to discourse with them touching their building some of these ships, several of the said builders were some time since with them at their Office, and not one of them seemed then inclined to undertake the building any of them but only Mr. Castle.

The Lords ordered another meeting at Derby House upon Thursday next, Directing the Officers of the Navy to be prepared themselves to satisfy their Lordships in the principal matter calling for speedy determination towards the expediting the going in hand with these ships, conferring in the mean time with the Officers of the Ordnance in what relates to their part of this work.

It was observed that a great part of the timber to be provided for the building of these ships being to be had from persons that never had to do heretofore with the navy, nor would now but for this occasion, and consequently know not the methods thereof as to the delivering of the goods, taking out bills, and applications for payment, The Officers of the Navy will be driven to pay for the said goods upon the place with ready money, and dispensed with in reference to that standing instruction and rule of the navy by which the Officers thereof are obliged to contract for goods nowhere but at the Navy Board, whereas they must now be authorised, both by themselves and purveyors, to provide stores and agree and pay for at the places where they are to be found. Which was yielded as a thing indispensable.

ORDERED, That the Officers of the Navy do hasten as much as may be a report to my Lords of all things requisite to be determined and provided for touching the repairs of the old ships and dispatch of that work.

They are also ORDERED to use all expedition in sending away the intended supplies for Virginia, with an estimate of the charge thereof to be presented to the Lords for the bringing back the forces from thence.

If any new instructions are to be sent to Newfoundland by Sir William Poole, they are to be hastened.

The Plymouth and the Woolwich to carry 200 recruits for Tangier by 100 on each.

ORDERED, that it be referred to Sir John Kempthorne¹ at Portsmouth to appoint another ship in the room of the Plymouth, to bear the guns which were lately mounted extraordinary upon her for the greater safety of the ships in that harbour.

ORDERED, that the non-compliance with the Admiral's Instructions be no impediment to Captain Stepney's² widow to receive what is due from his Majesty to her in right of her husband, he lately dying without opportunity of giving or being demanded any satisfaction in reference thereto.

Mr. Secretary Williamson delivers this day to the Board a copy of the vote of the House of Commons³ referring to the Lords of the Admiralty the settlement of the business of passes, which their Lordships direct to be brought into debate before them another day.

MAY 8, 1677

[*Present* : Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers and Officers of the Ordnance attending.]

A letter read of the 28th March from Sir John Berry at Virginia, giving an account of the total suppression of the rebellion there, and of many persons executed for the same, among which is Bland, son of Mr. John Bland, merchant at Tangier.

ORDERED, That captain's pay be allowed to Lieutenant Hodder, viz., his pay as lieutenant made up captain's for the time that he did the office of captain on board the *Guarland* in the absence and sickness of his commander Captain Lassells.

A petition being read of the Lady Hallis's, widow of Sir Freebaile Hallis, for consideration of the loss of her husband ; ORDERED, that in case she has not received her widowship's allowance according to the establishment of the navy, it may be paid her ; If she has, it is

¹ Resident commissioner of the navy at Portsmouth.

² Late commander of the *Drake*.

³ Probably the note of 24th March (*Commons' Journals*, ix. 405).

to be answered her, that she has all that the establishment of the navy doth allow.

The like RESOLVED upon the petition of Mrs. Pyend, widow of Captain Pyend, in case anything be done to her in right of her husband upon any other score, there being none upon that of her husband's death, he dying of ordinary sickness on shore.

Press warrants for workmen read and signed.

A petition of several masters of merchantmen being read, complaining of the hard usage put upon them in Holland by their being forced to pay their seamen's wages on shore to clear their scores there, and to discharge their men when so paid, to the violating of all discipline among seamen, and robbing the nation of so much of her naval force, and Mr. Pepys (as present Master of Trinity House¹) informing the Lords that the whole matter was now under debate in that House touching seamen's leaving, or being debauched from, the service of their country, in order to the preparing a bill to be presented to the Parliament for the remedying of that evil, the petition was ORDERED to be referred to the said Trinity House.

The report of the Officers of the Navy being read for the providing and governing of boats, etc., for the better securing his Majesty's ships in the river of Medway²; ORDERED, that the same be read again when his Majesty shall be present next.

Their Lordships then proceeded to the discoursing with the Officers of the Navy and Ordnance touching the manning and gunning of these 30 ships, which necessarily introducing a debate touching the establishment much wanted, and which has been long in hand at the Navy Board, for the manning and gunning the whole present fleet³ upon such measures as might be standing, certain, and indifferent from all ships, both built and to be built, and that without which the manning and gunning

¹ He was appointed Master of the Trinity House in 1676 and again in 1685.

² Cf. the instructions of 1685 (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 208).

³ On the establishment ultimately adopted (3rd November, 1677), see *ib.*, i. 233-41.

of these 30 cannot be rightly determined ; ORDERED, That the adjusting that establishment and the measures thereof be referred to the two, Officers of the Navy and Ordnance, to be by them debated with some of the principal commanders of the fleet now in the way, so as to bring in their joint report thereon the next Saturday.

My Lord Treasurer moving that it might be particularly considered what was done, and what remains to be done more than was, towards the obtaining of materials for the building of the 30 new ships ; ANSWERED, that there seemed but these 4 ways capable of being taken for the doing thereof, viz. :

1st. The Officers of the Navy their discoursing and treating for materials with all the merchants they are conversant with for goods of like kind.

2ndly. The publishing their invitations to others to bring in their tenders of any naval commodities, by putting the same up at the Custom House and Exchange, and printing the same in the *Gazette*.

3rdly. Their going personally into the country to view woods by the proper members of their Board, viz., Sir John Tippetts, Sir Richard Haddock, and Sir Anthony Deane.

4th. Their addressing particularly, by letters from their Office, to such persons from several parts of England as they can hear to be proprietors of timber, and sending out purveyors to look out for what they cannot otherwise obtain the knowledge of.

Every one of which has and will speedily be duly taken and is now in taking, and no other means do hitherto occur for obtaining what is desired.

ORDERED, that another meeting be held on Saturday next at the Robes, in order to his Majesty receiving the result of the two, Officers of the Navy and Ordnance, touching the manning and gunning of the old and new ships.

The report of the Officers of the Navy being read, touching the necessity of entering men for the repairs, agreed to, and it was ORDERED, That as well the 2 ships now in hand as the remaining 32 proposed by Sir John Tippetts ¹ to be capable of being repaired in 12 weeks,

¹ Surveyor of the navy.

be gone about with as soon as the said P.O. shall be possessed of money, or credit for the money ; and commissions ordered to be issued (as heretofore was usual) under the great seal to each of the P. Officers and Commissioners of the Navy for enabling them from time to time to press workmen and artificers of all sorts for the said two works of repair and new building ; The same being desired by the said Officers.

MAY 12, 1677

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

A petition being read from the owners of the Hatton ketch, formerly hired into his Majesty's service, praying satisfaction for some part of the said hire left to be paid to the Lord Hatton, and it appearing by an order formerly made herein by their Lordships that his Majesty hath paid all that of right ought to be expected from him ; ORDERED, that the petition be transmitted to my Lord Hatton,¹ with desire of his giving satisfaction or reply thereto.

An Order of Council being read, referring to them a petition from certain merchants of Bristol for a pass, and their Lordships being satisfied in the reasonableness of the said petition provided the petitioners be persons of good credit, which is also well satisfied for by Sir Robert Southwell ; RESOLVED, to make report to the Council that a pass may be accordingly granted them.

The establishment of men and guns so far approved of as to be put in execution for the ships now going to sea.

His Majesty being petitioned by several mackerel² fishermen of this season for protection for their men

¹ MS. 'Hetten.' The reference is to Christopher Hatton, second Baron and afterwards first Viscount Hatton ; see *D.N.B.*, xxv. 163.

² MS. 'maykorell.'

against being pressed, it is not thought fit to grant them protections, nor very necessary, in regard the press warrants are limited to a number of days which now were expiring. But was nevertheless ORDERED, that a letter should be written to the commander of every ship to admonish him against the interrupting the fishermen.

A petition of one John Beere, a seaman serving under Sir Richard Rooth, who was made 'run' and so reported under Sir Richard Rooth's and his officers' hands in the ship's book for deserting the ship at Plymouth, but is since certified by Sir Richard Rooth to have been absent by leave, though he happened not to return to his ship at the very day he was directed; ORDERED, that the said John Beere be fined 3 months pay for his failing to return at the time, and Sir Richard Rooth checked for granting this certificate after he had under his hand made a man 'run' and declared him such at the payable, as Sir Thomas Allin certified.

Sir John Berry's request from Virginia for his Majesty's granting him a small parcel of wines, by him seized in port there, belonging to a malefactor executed there, Sir John Berry setting forth that he was driven to make use of them in the entertaining of the extraordinary company resorting on board him as admiral and one of the Commissioners; GRANTED, upon the condition he proposeth of his Majesty's being truly entitled to the said goods.

ORDERED, that victuals and vessels be promised for the receiving the soldiers by 30 as fast as they are raised and sent on board from the Tower.

The captains of the 6th-rates petitioning that they may be allowed extraordinary necessary money,¹ as is granted to pursers of small ships, they being their own pursers; GRANTED, as coming within the true intention of the said establishment.

The Navy Officers' report read and approved touching the guard of the river Medway, and ORDERED to be put in execution, with the same (as they proposed) to be likewise done for Portsmouth.

¹ See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 168.

ORDERED, [that] the Master of the Ordnance and Chancellor of the Exchequer¹ be added to the Commissioners of the Admiralty.

Sir Nicholas Armourer's petition referred to the Officers of the Navy.

His Majesty being again moved in the case of old Captain Bonamy,² and shewn that though he neither is regularly nor can without a dangerous precedent be brought into the establishment of the navy for a superannuated officer (as hath been formerly noted) yet that he is a proper object of his Majesty's charity; His Majesty was pleased, by advice of my Lords of the Admiralty (my Lord Treasurer being present), that he would give him as of charity the sum of £100, and that he should be continually borne as a midshipman extraordinary, as he at this day is, upon the Woolwich. It being also in particular recommended by his Majesty to my Lord Treasurer to find some convenient way of supplying the poor man with the said sum.

The answer of the N[avy] O[fficers] to several of the queries contained in a late letter to their Lordships to that Board relating to the repairing of the old ships and building the new being read, They first debated the business of the repairs, with the order of performing the same proposed and the method of payment to be made for the same demanded by the said Officers. The former of which was very well approved, and the latter (as to the payments) undertaken by my Lord Treasurer to be fully complied with, and they accordingly directed to proceed to the going in hand with the said repair, and pressing of men for the same.

His Majesty was pleased to fall next to the debating the table by them presented of the burthens and principal dimensions of the ship of each rate proposed to be built; To which his Majesty took exceptions, as not coming up to the full length upon the gun-deck, and other measures which he judged fit they should be of, though

¹ Sir Thomas Chicheley and Sir John Ernle; the letters patent are dated 26th September, 1677. On the significance of these changes see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 39, note 3.

² See 10th February.

those which the Officers did observe in the calculating of this table did answer (as they said) as near as they could to the burthens first proposed by Mr. Pepys to the House of Commons, which those now insisted upon by his Majesty will be found to exceed. His Majesty nevertheless is pleased to declare his opinion that the dimensions he now offers are as small as will serve to make the ships to answer all the ends of force and quality which such ships ought to have, [and] delivereth back the said table of dimensions to the Officers of the Navy, directing them to calculate another anew, suitable to those lengths of the gun-decks in each rate which he had now given them.

A paper containing several queries made by the Officers of the Navy in order to their security in the execution of the Act for the building of those ships being read and discoursed, it was ORDERED that such part thereof as they remained unsatisfied in after the said discourse should be carried to the King's counsel¹ for their answer, and that what they cannot answer in the satisfaction of the said Officers be put in writing and presented again to the Lords further to consider of having the same in fit manner opened to the Parliament at their approaching meeting.

The Officers of the Ordnance being called in to the delivering in their reports touching the guns to be provided for the new ships, and the charge thereof.

The Treasurer of the Navy moving for his Majesty's advancing £200,000 upon the Act for the new ships, urging that without it to go to market with, the work of the whole year would be in danger of being lost; My Lord Treasurer answered that there was no power provided for the raising money upon the said Act, or satisfying interest thereon, But that he will nevertheless do all he can to raise money thereon whatever shift he makes, provided that this be moved to the Parliament for their approval immediately upon their sitting.

¹ MS. 'Councill.'

May 17, 1677

[*Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

The King approves the revised table of dimensions.¹

Convoy to be given from Dover to Calais for 12 horses ' for the King of France's own use,' under the direction of Monsieur De Valle, his equerry.²

His Majesty being moved touching the gratuity long since promised by his Majesty to Mr. Gregory, clerk of the check at Chatham, My Lord Treasurer putting his Majesty in mind thereof (naming £1000) and proposing that, for want of any better expedient for the payment of it, he may have it assigned upon the sale of old naval stores after the present engagements thereon (if any such thing be) shall be satisfied ; the same was by his Majesty assented to, and committed to my Lord Treasurer to see put in execution.

The Downs having now a competent number of ships in it ; ORDERED, that the Yarmouth and Swallow, some time since returned from the Straits, be now called in and paid off.

Comte de Rebenac being satisfied with the yacht,³ and Monsieur Leyenbergh⁴ having hired a vessel at his own charge to carry his master the King of Sweden's goods to Gottenburg in company with the said yacht, The commander of which vessel hath his Majesty the King of England's commission and jack (as hired into his own service to secure her outward), the said commission and jack being to be delivered up to the captain of the yacht at their arrival at Gottenburg, and to have a pass for her security homewards ; The same was made known to my Lords, and by his Majesty's command a pass is ordered to be prepared and given to the master of the said vessel accordingly ; The case being wholly extraordinary.

The repairs of his Majesty's ships being taken into

¹ See 12th May.

² MS. ' a Querry.'

³ See 1st May.

⁴ MS. ' Lyonbergh.' Sir John Barckman Leyenbergh was the Swedish Resident. In 1671 he had married Sir William Batten's widow (*Diary*, i. 286 n.). For correspondence about the despatch of the yacht, see *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3932.

discourse, and my Lord Treasurer being pleased to declare again his undertaking for the punctual payment of the moneys demanded, and in the order demanded by the Officers of the Navy, and thereupon requiring from the said Officers what they had further to demand, either for the directing or enabling them to go on with the said repairs in the method they propose, By which the whole number of the 32 ships named in the list should be finished in their repairs within 12 weeks from the day of their being ordered and enabled to go about the same, which day should be taken to be this; The said Officers replied that they had nothing further of assistance to expect from his Lordship than the fruits of his said promise, nor further directions from my Lords than what they had received. But did hope to have the work finished within the time proposed, Provided men and materials can be had for money, as they have observed in the said proposals and towards which they will be found using all the means that care and industry can employ in the performance of such a work, and will be ready from time to time to justify that they have done so. And so that matter was concluded, with direction to the said Officers to give their Lordships from time to time an account at their weekly meeting of the advancements they make or difficulties they shall meet with in their execution thereof.

Several of the flag-officers, Sir John Narbrough,¹ Colonel Legge,² Captain Herbert,³ Sir Richard Rooth, Captain Sanderson, Captain Wetwang, Captain Gunman, officers and commanders, being called in, and the Navy Officers attending, the establishment both for men and guns, both for the new ships and the old fleet, was largely debated, after several conferences had between the said Officers and the Officers of the Ordnance at the Navy Office and elsewhere touching the same. And after, that for the new ships was settled with general approbation and ordered to be drawn up fair and jointly signed by the Officers of the Navy and officers of the fleet, with alterations made therein to be confirmed by the Lords of the Admiralty and by them handed to and

¹ *D. N. B.*, xl. 89.

² Afterwards Lord Dartmouth; *D. N. B.*, xxxii. 408.

³ Afterwards Earl of Torrington; *D. N. B.*, xxvi. 169.

ratified at the Council Board, that for the old fleet was recommitted to and put into the hands of the Officers of the Navy, to be made to answer in the great ships to the new ships of like dimensions, and in the lesser to be perfected by what measures they can, The officers of the fleet declaring them to be the only proper judges of it, and that themselves could not have done it so well as the Officers have, who in the general they acknowledge to have provided as large numbers of men as they could wish, though they differ something in opinion from them in the manner of distributing them.

A paper presented by Sir John Narbrough, containing 3 particulars wherein he desires satisfaction before his going to sea : the two former, viz., his being discharged of the 80,000 pieces of $\frac{8}{8}$ ¹ paid him in slaves and brimstone by the people of Tripoli, and of the sum of £147 10s., the surplus of a bill of imprest formerly given him by his Royal Highness, were granted him ; the third, relating to his being underpaid for his service the last voyage,² is referred to Mr. Pepys to state to their Lordships at their next meeting.

His Majesty also being put in mind of the medals heretofore³ promised to the officers employed in the action of Tripoli, his Majesty is pleased to recommend to my Lord Treasurer the finding money for the providing the same, and to command Mr. Pepys to prepare a list of the officers concerned therein.

MAY 19, 1677

[*Present* : Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Ossory ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

A report read from the Officers of the Navy touching the capacity of his Majesty's yard at Harwich to have another place fitted for the building of 3rd-rate ships

¹ See note on p. 333 above.

² The margin refers to 'Sir J. N.'s demanding satisfaction for disbursements, &c., by him made in the Tripoli action.'

³ See 9th November.

there; and ORDERED, that the same be put in hand, and Mr. Betts¹ appointed (at their recommendation) to execute the place of master-shipwright there during the occasion of building these ships.

A protection denied to the workmen employed about Paul's²; the press warrants relating to the service of repairing and building the ships must not be neglected.

The Turkey Company desiring convoy by Sir John Narbrough for two ships to the Levant, this is granted provided that they are ready to go along with him.

Mr. Pepys proposing the consideration of the late vote of Parliament touching passes,³ it was in the first place observed that the two great points insisted upon therein is the people being necessitated to take double passes where a ship stays out above a year, and the chargeable fees paid for the same. As for the former of which, the remedying thereof lies only upon getting an answer from Algier for whose sake only the limitations of the Turkey passes to a year is continued; And this Mr. Secretary Coventry declared to his Majesty to have wrote to the Consul often about, but without any answer yet received to it; but shall press it again. As to the other, Mr. Pepys shewed that it was from other hands that that charge of fees arise[s] so high—his, for himself and clerks, amounting to but 25s., which he claimed as his due, as being lower than was anciently and as low as was at any time ever taken by his predecessors without any complaint ever made of it. To which Mr. Speaker observing that, whatever it was formerly, it is now complained of as too much, when some said 8000, but it was generally taken for granted in the House that 4000 passes went through my hand in a year, and that therefore it had been proposed that 10s. might be thought a sufficient fee to the Secretary [of the] Admiralty for a pass. To which Mr. Pepys replied, that whatever the number is, his right to his fee is neither more nor

¹ Mr. Isaac Betts, afterwards master-shipwright at Portsmouth.

² The re-building of St. Paul's Cathedral had been begun in 1675.

³ A committee of the Commons was appointed on 7th March to consider the business of passes, and reported 24th March (*Commons' Journals*, ix. 394, 405).

less, but that nevertheless his number of passes instead of 8000 or 4000 has not arisen to 1000 per annum since his coming into the Admiralty, though his labour in the previous scrutinies and examinations to the granting of a pass is by the late rules made five times more than it ever heretofore was; he humbly submitted himself to his Majesty as to the continuance of his said fee, or allowing him compensation for it in case he thinks it for his service to have it taken away. Upon which his Majesty was pleased to say that he saw no reason for the having it taken away, but referred it to the Lords to appoint a day of purpose to examine how the other parts of the pretended charges upon passes ariseth, and to report their observation upon the whole to him.

His Majesty then proceeded to examine the paper of queries exhibited by the Officers of the Navy¹ in order to their being secured in the method of their execution of their part in the building of the new ships, which were in number four, the 1st whereof being :—

Quaere,—Whether P[rincipal] O[fficers] and Commissioners of the Navy may warrant the building of 30 ships of greater burthens than the Act directs, his Majesty undertaking to supply the money wanting, without breach of the Act and being in danger of incurring the penalty.²

Answered,—That his Majesty will take upon himself the defraying the excess of charge arising from the increase of dimensions ordered by him above the burthens assigned by the Parliament, in case the Parliament shall insist upon it. In which the Officers of the Navy own themselves satisfied, and will proceed to the building of the ships of the dimensions directed by his Majesty upon an order of the Lords of the Admiralty.

*Quaere*³ 2nd,—How the P[rincipal] Officers and Commissioners of the Navy can be indemnified from breach of the Act (otherwise than by a supplemental Bill) for not keeping a particular account otherwise than by estimate of the charge of each of the said 30 ships for so many of

¹ See 12th May.

² 29 Car. II. c. 1, § 35, provided for one 1st-rate of 1,400 tons, nine 2nd-rates of 1,100 tons, and twenty 3rd-rates of 900 tons; while §§ 46 and 47 imposed penalties on officials misapplying moneys raised by the Act.

³ MS. 'Query.'

them as are built together in one yard, the keeping of the said accounts distinct being impossible, they being all built out of the same parcels of timber and other materials bought at several prices.

Answered,—That things impossible do excuse themselves in their not being done, and that for the justifying of the impossibility of what is required, some of the eminent merchant-builders, as also Mr. Wright and Mr. Wood, members of the House of Commons, may have their advice asked how the distinct accounts demanded by the Act may be best kept, in order to their shewing that they may or acknowledging that they cannot be kept.

Quaere 3rd,—Whether it be not fit that the P[ri]ncipal O[ff]icers and Commissioners of the Navy be empowered to dispose of the remains of timber bought for the building of the said 30 ships after all the useful pieces have been culled out for the said ships, and with the produce thereof to buy other timber or materials for the said ships, according to custom.

Answered,—That what timber shall be so left not applicable to the 30 ships, may be kept and applied to the King's other uses in his yards, the same being first duly estimated and the value thereof supplied to the Office of the Navy in money to be laid out in other goods for the use of the 30 ships; And then as to the latter part of the *Quaere's* touching the dispensing with the late rules forbidding the workmen's carrying away chips, upon debate largely had upon that matter, and the considerations offered for it by the Officers of the Navy, viz., the trouble and charge the King is at in gathering and laying up of the chips, much exceeding the profit that can be made of them, there being nobody that will buy them; The discouragement that it will be of to the workmen that shall be pressed out of merchants' yards, where they have greater wages and chips, to come to the King's for less wages and no chips; The frequent attempts of taking away chips, even by an addition to the workmen's wages, but still unsuccessful,—His Majesty and their Lordships did conclude it expedient at this time to settle the workmen at liberty to serve themselves with the chips, as heretofore they have done; But not by any public warrant to license them thereto but by a silent

connivance permitted to the officers of the yard to give way to the workmen's falling to their ancient practice¹ of gathering chips at their leaving off work, with caution, however, given to the said officers, and particularly the porters of the yards, to use all industry to prevent the return of the old abuse complained of, of their carrying away unlawful chips.

Quære 4,—Whether it be not fit, since the measure of the tonnage of the ships depends upon the length of the keel and breadth of the ship, and that of late some ships have their keels much longer in respect to the length of their gun-decks than was formerly in use and approved of by his Majesty, and thereby measure more than otherwise they would, That the reputed length of the keel be ascertained by supplemental bill to be taken from the length of the gun-deck between the rabbets and the stern and stern-post, thus, viz., abating thence $\frac{3}{8}$ of the main breadth of the ship and a fourth of the perpendicular height of the stern-post to the gun-deck, the remainder to be accounted the length of the keel.

Answered,—That the subject of this question is a matter that cannot be thought likely to come within the comprehension of the Parliament, either as to the nature or moment of it, without more trouble and expense of time than would be convenient to offer them upon it, and therefore not fit to be taken notice of to them.

MAY 20, 1677

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Arlington²; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys, by his Majesty's particular command, communicating unto him and their Lordships a letter lately transmitted to him to that purpose by the Officers of the Navy, as having been sent to them by Mrs. Bland, mother to Giles Bland, lately executed at Virginia upon the score of the rebellion there, wherein are found words very reflective upon the Government and the proceedings

¹ MS. 'promise.'

² Usually entered as 'Lord Chamberlain.'

of justice against him, vindicating the innocence of her son by an irreverent comparing¹ thereof to that of his late sacred Majesty, Was ordered to shew the same to Mr. Attorney-General, with directions to him from the King to consider and report what course is open by law to punish the author of a letter so scandalous as this must be allowed to be.

Mr. Pepys giving his Majesty also an account of the endeavours that have been used by ships sent on purpose a-cruising to find out the 3 Frenchmen that shot at Captain Carverth,² but without success, was ordered to give it in charge to Sir John Holmes, commander-in-chief in the Downs, to continue the search after the said 3 ships by particular instruction to the ships that he shall send abroad a-cruising to look out for them.

The Quaker ketch now going to Virginia is designed from thence to attend the service of the Leeward Islands, under the direction of Colonel Stapleton the Governor there, for the sending and fetching of intelligence.

JUNE 2, 1677

[*Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

A letter bearing date 26th May being brought this morning by the Navy Board and read, containing their further answer to the letter of inquiries from my Lords in relation to the building of 30 ships, and debate had thereupon, It was RESOLVED as follows, viz., that it being above all things to be desired (as far as the same is practicable) that the whole of the said 30 ships should be built in the King's own yards, the number of building-places there should be improved as much as may be, and that to that purpose a place be fitted at Woolwich for the building of one ship more than the Officers of the Navy, and particularly the Surveyor, inclined to admit could be advantageously built at that

¹ MS. 'company.'

² Commander of the Francis.

place at one time, namely, two, urging therein the straitness of room, both for working in and convenient laying in of timber, and adding that the care being taken which they intended in having the frames of ships neatly hewn in the woods and set up in the King's yard as fast as ever the bodies of those built there can be put in a condition of floating (the finishing work being left to be done on float), as much or more dispatch would (as they believed) be made in working upon 2 at a time in the yard as working upon three. His Majesty, notwithstanding, that nothing might be wanting that should give any possible furtherance to this work, insisted upon it, and ordered as above, that another place should be fitted, besides what already is in that yard, for the building of another ship, and that, for removing the objection for the want of room, the Officers of the Navy should consider with all speed and report to his Majesty and my Lords which may be the most proper place to be added to the present yard for the laying of materials in,—the gun-wharf or the old ballast-pits on the other side of the highway adjoining to the King's yard, and if the latter, what the charge will be of making a passage by an arch underground from the King's yard into the said pits.

As to what the Navy Officers proposed to consideration touching the building or not building by contract, and the doubt they propose touching the construction that may be made abroad of our not building some by contract, Namely, That in case the whole number of ships shall not be built within the two years, more might have been done if it would have been permitted for some to have been built by contract; It was considered, First, that it has been heretofore suggested by the Officers of the Navy that the whole number of workmen to be had in England, viz., ship-carpenters, is not more than his Majesty's own yards alone will employ, so as to set ships to building by contract, especially in this River, is, by taking up some of these men, to lessen the work that may be done in the King's own yards, which is laid down as the thing first to be taken care of.

Next, that the limitation of years for the building of these ships (which was Mr. Speaker's note) was not,

from all that he could observe in the debates of it in the House of Commons, to be interpreted as if they required or expected that the work should be entirely performed within the precise time of two years, but for preventing the inconvenience of leaving the time indefinite for their calling for an account for the moneys given and the works performed therewith, and their being satisfied that as much had been performed as could reasonably be expected within that time.

Next, that the setting persons to work by contract before all be provided for that can be done in the King's own yards, doth but encourage others to go to market for materials at the same time with the King, to the enhancing the prices thereof, as appears by what it hath already done, and consequently also raised difficulties to the King's works in his own yards in reference to materials, as it hath been already observed to do with the respect to workmen.

Lastly, that it appears by the N[avy] O[fficers'] report now read, that his Majesty has the less encouragement to provide to the building ships by contract from the price that is already demanded per ton, considerably above the rate by which the Parliament proceeds in their calculations of the sums necessary for the work, and which may reasonably be expected would be still raised upon him if it shall be discovered by the merchant-builders to be under necessity of making use of and depending upon them.

Upon which consideration it was RESOLVED, that all means should be used in the first place for the securing all the materials and hands that could be procured for his Majesty's use in his own yards, and the same employed with all the vigour and diligence that can be expressed therein. And that for the preventing any of the aforementioned inconveniences that would arise from the encouraging of private builders to the making preparations in the market for their building by contract, it be forthwith given out by the Officers of the Navy that his Majesty doth purpose to build the whole number in his own yards and not any of them by contract, and that consequently the Officers of the Navy do proceed to the making the utmost provision they can for the building

the whole number in the King's yards, and go about the same accordingly, it being judged time enough to discourse hereafter about building by contract when his Majesty shall see the utmost that can be expected to be done by his own hands in his own yards; One only exception being admitted hereto in reference to Bristol, where his Majesty and my Lords are inclined to have one ship gone in hand with by contract with Mr. Baylie, from this consideration principally, Namely, That the remoteness of the place from hence is such as that probably his Majesty would have little benefit here either of the materials or hands that there shall be employed in building a ship there.

His Majesty is pleased to take notice to the Officers of the Navy of his having lately discoursed with Colonel Norton, who hath offered to serve his Majesty with whatever quantity of his woods they shall judge fit for his Majesty's service, without advancing his prices in any degree above what the said Officers have hereto[fore] paid him for the like goods.

The Officers of the Navy observing to his Majesty that there were at this time several parcels of timber in his yards, which having been laid in by them for the general service of his navy (and not upon the Act of the 30 ships) do contain pieces fitter to be employed upon new work than old, and therefore asking his Majesty's direction whether they might be permitted to make use thereof for the present going in hand with the 30 ships; His Majesty was pleased readily to consent thereto, and to direct them to make use of all or any part thereof, upon a just valuation first put upon the said goods by two of his own officers and two other master-shipwrights of the town of good reputation, such as Mr. Johnson¹ and Mr. Castle,² who may do the same with all indifferency, in order to his Majesty being hereafter repaid for the same by a like value of timber to be returned to him upon a like just

¹ Henry Johnson of Blackwall. During the period 1660-88 he built five 3rd-rates for the royal navy. He was M.P. for Aldeburgh, and in 1680 was knighted.

² Probably William Castle of Deptford. During the period 1660-88 he built three 3rd-rates at Deptford and two yachts at Rotherhithe.

valuation out of the timber that shall be provided upon the said Act, as the same shall come in and the works of the said ships shall call for it.

Provisions sent to Virginia, to be bartered for tobacco if the soldiers should come away before they arrive.

A petition of Captain Carverth's being read, praying consideration for his extraordinary charge in carrying over to Riga the Russian envoy to the King, and his Majesty's envoy to the Emperor of Russia, 'from neither of whom he pretends to have received the least gratuity or compensation,' it was referred to the Officers of the Navy.

Another petition from Sir Nicholas Armourer being read, either for direction to go on with the contract between Sir Edward Spragge and partners (whereof himself is one) and his Majesty, for their building some ships for the King in Ireland, or that he may be satisfied for the charge, etc., they have sustained in their preparations upon the said contract; ORDERED, that he be admitted to open his case more particularly to my Lords. But he proving to be out of the way, It was RESOLVED, that he be directed to attend at the next sitting in order to the ascertaining the value of the reparations for damages pretended to by the petitioner, before the King be put to make the choice insisted upon in the petition.

Mr. Pepys taking notice of his being applied to by Mr. James Houblon, merchant, in the name of himself and others, for an account of certain orders which he expected to have found issued by his Majesty for the sending over of some ships to lie before Ostend, for the forcing that place to make reparation for the injuries by them done in the undue carrying in and confiscating the vessels and goods of his Majesty's subjects, The merchants' said expectations being grounded (as the said Mr. Houblon alleged) upon a petition by them presented to and read at the Council Table the last sitting, And thereupon desiring his Majesty's and my Lords' directions concerning that matter; It was remembered that the matter of that petition had been then debated, but not the request thereof so perfectly but that Mr. Pepys is directed to inform himself at the Council Chamber what was concluded therein, and my [Lord] Privy Seal also undertook to do

the like, in order to the reporting it to this Board at their next meeting, It being judged a matter of such importance as to call for good deliberation and the opinion of the Council to be taken in it before any orders for execution be issued.

Notice being taken by Mr. Pepys of the intimation he has received from Sir John Ernle¹ of the nasty condition wherein the recruits going to Tangier are set on board him, from the want of clothes ; It was referred to the Lords of the Commission for Tangier, then present, for the finding some means of supplying the soldiers with clothes for the keeping them sweet, and preventing the ill consequences to the contrary this hot weather, both to themselves and to the ships' companies with whom they are to go.

The Monmouth to be recalled from the coast of Ireland, and the Cleveland yacht sent in her place.

Mr. Pepys praying leave from his Majesty, in the name of the President and the Governors of Christ's Hospital (whereof he himself is one) to take notice of something which his Majesty hath been lately prevailed with to require from them in reference to his late Royal Foundation within that Hospital, which (as by the terms of the constitution thereof) they are wholly disabled from answering his Majesty's commands in, so (if admitted) seems at once to strike at the whole of his Majesty's gracious intention in the said Foundation, Namely, the recommending to the immediate benefit of the said Foundation within the Mathematical School a person not qualified according to the charter, which forbids any to be admitted into the body of the Blue Coat boys of that Hospital, and there brought up in fair writing and arithmetic to the rule of three, with a competent knowledge in Latin, in none of which the person so recommended answers the limitations of the said charter, and if admitted in his single case will become a precedent for others to claim the same favour (as several already have given out they design to do), to the preventing his Majesty entirely in the fruits of his charity in this his Royal Foundation, from whence so many instances have already appeared

¹ Sir John Ernle was about to go to sea as commander of the Woolwich.

by children fitted for and sent thence to sea, to the honour of his Majesty and general expectation of future advantage to the public. Whereto his Majesty was pleased to reply by declaring that he would by no means have his said recommendation interrupted otherwise than may consist with every restrictions and orders contained in the charter of his Foundation, and that in case the persons so recommended shall not be contented to accept of the benefit thereof according to the strictness of the rules enjoined by the charter, his Majesty will not expect from the Hospital their doing anything in compliance with his said letter that cannot be done with full conformity to the rules of the Institution. And thereto my Lords of the Admiralty were pleased unanimously to give his Majesty their concurrent advice, authorising Mr. Pepys to make known his Majesty's gracious intentions therein to the said President and Governors.

His Majesty being moved for his directions touching the different values of the medals and chains designed for the commanders and officers serving in the late action against Tripoli, according to the different qualities of the said officers, was pleased, with the advice of my Lords, to allot for that to Sir John Narbrough, £100; to the commanders of the 2 frigates, £60 each; to the commanders of the 2 fireships, £50 each; to the officers commanding the boats, being in all 14, named in a list then presented,¹ as also to Captain Pinn for his service (when lieutenant) heretofore at Bugia, £30 each,—to be prepared for them by the Master of the Mint by moneys to be supplied him to that purpose from the Office of the Navy.

An application on behalf of the town of Sandwich, that passes might be granted at Sandwich as well as at Dover, referred to the Commissioners of the Customs.

A petition being read of one Nagle, for the paying to him some tickets for service done in the years '66 and '67, was refused,² as that which would necessarily draw like application for payment from others equally concerned in tickets of the like date.

An account of Captain Russell's and his officers being read, touching the late passage between his Majesty's ship

¹ See 17th May.

² MS. 'referred.'

the Reserve under his command and two men-of-war (supposed French) whom he met 40 leagues S.S.W. from Scilly¹ in his return from the Straits, with the indignity by them offered to his Majesty's said ship, and the satisfaction demanded and endeavoured to be taken by Captain Russell by his pursuing them for 2 or 3 glasses,² but without success, they being clean and himself foul; nothing was found chargeable as matter of blame upon the said captain or company, nor the information sufficient to ground any complaint or giving any orders for taking any receptions³ at sea, there being no certain evidence to what country the said ships belonged, though suggested to be French, nor any particular descriptions of the ships so as to enable the King to give any orders for their being sought for and brought in, which last Captain Russell is to be again wrote to or discoursed with by Mr. Pepys to supply, by giving the best description he can of the said ships.

An account by letter from Captain Wood being read, of the danger his Majesty's ship the Diamond under his command was lately carried into upon the Goodwin in her passage to the Downs, through a most unheard-of degree of ignorance and neglect in her master, Zach[ariah] Ewell (who was noted to his Majesty and my Lords by Mr. Pepys to be at this time in the number of the masters to whom an allowance of half-pay is made in time of peace, as having been master of 1st and 2nd-rate ships, and he particularly of the Unicorn), and of his pilot, Captain Crow; ORDERED, That they be both kept in custody and tried by a court-martial.

A petition being read of Lieutenant Darcy's for consideration for his charge extraordinary in following his ship Assistance into the Straits was denied, in consideration that his said charge in following the ship arose from his being idling on shore at the time of his ship's departure.

¹ MS. 'Sylly.'

² *I.e.*, half-hours; 'glass' in the naval sense usually refers to the half-hour glass.

³ Recaptures.

JUNE 9, 1677

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

A petition being read from the East India Company, praying that in regard of 2 French men-of-war reported to have done injury to some of his Majesty's subjects off [f] the Land's End, and several privateers said to have been lately fitted forth from St. Malo's, his Majesty would be pleased to send some ships to the westward for securing 9 or 10 rich ships of theirs expected home this and the next month ; the same was granted, and they directed to give any intimation to Mr. Pepys touching the station where the ships may be in likeliest way of meeting of theirs.

An account from Sir John Holmes was read, of some injuries received and persons wounded upon the George merchantman, a vessel belonging to his Majesty's subjects ; But being without any certain notice of the names, nation, or description of the vessel that did her wrong, ORDERED, that Sir John Holmes be written to again to endeavour by all opportunities to get such an account thereof as may inform his Majesty from whence to demand and require satisfaction.

A letter being read from one Goold, of Dorchester, to Mr. Benjamin Scutt, merchant in London, giving an account of a[n] English-built vessel, manned all with Englishmen, with a Channel pass on board but not a Mediterranean, which being met about 30 leagues to the northward of Cape St. Vincent by some Algereenes was seized and carried to Algier ; ORDERED, That the Treaty between his Majesty and Algier be considered by Mr. Pepys against to-morrow in reference to the justice of this capture, and that he attend his Majesty about it to-morrow at the Committee of Foreign Affairs.

Sir Nicholas Armourer¹ being called in, and his petition, together with the report of the N[avy] O[fficers]

¹ See 2nd June.

and another of the Lord Treasurer's formerly made thereon being read, touching his claim of satisfaction for damage, or money to enable [him] to proceed upon the contract formerly made with the King by Sir Edward Spragge and himself for the building of ships in Ireland, and the whole matter largely discoursed; It was ORDERED, That Sir Nicholas Armourer do first apply himself to the satisfying the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy in all matters relating to the securing his Majesty in the effectual performance of the work, in case it shall be thought fit to go on upon this contract, (viz., for building of 3rd-rates only instead of the 4th-rates formerly agreed for), with respect to the capacity and fitness of the place, ability of the master-builders (by having them nominated by his Majesty, as Sir N. A. seems to admit), sufficiency of hands and materials for the well-building of the said ships and delivering them safe to his Majesty and within the time that shall be limited by contract, as also in what further evidences he hath of the truth and particular value of the damage he and his partners must necessarily sustain in case the said contract doth not proceed. After which, and the report of the N[avy] O[fficers] thereon (which they are to be directed to make), my Lords of the Admiralty will take the whole into fresh consideration and present their advice upon it to his Majesty.

Mr. Pepys presenting to the Board, according to command, a paper of instances of the allowance heretofore made of 20s. per diem extraordinary to Sir John Lawson,¹ Sir Thomas Allin,² and Sir Edward Spragge,³ above the ordinary pay of 40s. per diem as commanders-in-chief of fleets sent to the Straits; ORDERED, that the like allowance be made to Sir John Narbrough for his last voyage thither in that capacity.

A petition being read of 9 seamen taken on board the Yarmouth in foreign ports, Captain Trevanion com-

¹ On Sir John Lawson's service in the Mediterranean, 1661-4, see *D. N. B.*, xxxii. 294.

² Allin succeeded Lawson as commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean in 1664; and he was commander there again, 1668-70 (*D. N. B.*, i. 332).

³ Spragge succeeded Allin in 1670 (*ib.*, liii. 419).

mander, praying an allowance of wages during their passage home, as having done all the work of seamen on board during the said time, and coming also within the complement allowed to the said ship, and the same being both confirmed by Captain Trevanion himself, then called in on that behalf, the same was granted.

His Majesty and my Lords taking into debate with the Officers of the Navy once more ¹ the number of ships that may be built together at Woolwich, and the enlargement of the ground for laying or disposing of timber for the use thereof ; It was ORDERED, that forasmuch as the Old James, ² which fills up room in one of the docks there, is likely to take up much more time than may be fit to be taken from the building of the new ships, besides the doubts how she may prove in reference to her deserving to be repaired when her works shall come to be further opened, The said Old James be with all convenient speed removed out of the dock, and removed either into Ham Creek or laid at the chain (where it is suggested she may be employed to great use as a store-ship during the time she lies there under the present want of room complained of), as the Officers of the Navy shall judge most for his Majesty's service. By which means it was allowed on all hands that if in other respects it should be thought ³ . . . building of 4 ships together.

ORDERED also, that a passage be made from the King's yard through the master-shipwright's garden to the ballast-wharf behind the said master-shipwright's house, which is this day proposed by the Officers of the Navy as a much more convenient place to be added to the King's yard for the laying of timber in than what was formerly ¹ proposed at her touching the gun-wharf or the ballast-pits on the other side of the highway adjoining to the King's yard ; The said Officers being directed to consider and report to this Board what may be a fit compensation to be made to Mr. Pett for the loss of his ground, or what he may otherwise suffer on account of this passage, and what else would be needful to be done

¹ See 2nd June.

² A 2nd-rate, originally built in 1633. She was made a 3rd-rate in 1677, and sold as useless in 1682-3.

³ A line has evidently been omitted in the MS. here.

on his Majesty's behalf for the obtaining and securing of the said ballast-ground for the commodious and safe laying of timber and other stores there.

ORDERED also, that the Officers of the Navy do instantly apply themselves to the making the utmost and speediest provision they can, both of materials and hands, for the building of the 30 ships, and their proceedings to the effectual performance thereof in the best methods of dispatch and good husbandry that can be taken in the execution of it, and that they proceed with instant care to the laying of the keels of such of the said 30 ships as they are ordered to go first in hand with, in every of the yards where they are provided with pieces applicable thereto, Using all industry in the providing a further supply of keel-pieces for enabling them to do the like in any other of his Majesty's yards without respiting the laying of the said keels in expectation of making greater collections of timber first, His Majesty declaring it his pleasure with much earnestness that entrance be made forthwith upon the building of some of the said ships by laying the keels thereof, as an introduction and encouragement towards further advance to be made¹ . . . in it, and for the earlier discovering and removing any difficulties or obstructions that may possibly escape consideration until they shall appear by the works being put into some degree of execution.

The Lord Privy Seal acquaints the Board that some resolution had been taken at the Council Table in reference to the petition of the merchants mentioned the last sitting touching the injuries sustained by our merchants from those of Ostend, the particulars of which resolution will be seen in the Order that will be thereupon drawn and brought to this Board.

A petition being read from the Commissioners for Rebuilding of Paul's, praying protection to 8 several vessels employed in fetching of stone from Portland for the said work ; ANSWERED, that the late press is expired, and consequently no need of protection, but that when any new occasion shall fall out for the impresting of seamen, their requests shall be granted, upon lists given

¹ The omitted sentence is a repetition which makes nonsense of the passage—evidently a clerical error.

of the number and names of the men upon each vessel as well as of the vessels' and masters' names.

Two petitions being read, one from Sir Richard Rooth and the other from the purser of the Drake, both praying an allowance to be made for the victuals issued to several soldiers put as supernumeraries above their complements, And it being opened that in reference to Sir Richard Rooth's petition, it served to lay the charge and blame of bearing those supernumeraries wholly upon my Lord Inchiquin and his command, whereas it appeared in discourse that it was done at the instance of Sir Richard Rooth, who at the same [time] owns to have his full complement on board, and thereby to have made a precedent for governors abroad ¹ to take upon them a power which the Lord Admiral himself doth not pretend to but in cases of extraordinary necessity, viz., of warranting men to be entered upon the King's ships beyond the complement established at the Council Table, as also of commanders making application to improper authorities for the enlarging their numbers of men beyond their just establishment; ORDERED, that Sir Richard Rooth do take back his petition as it is now drawn, and rectify the same by grounding it upon his applications to my Lord Inchiquin upon account of his Majesty's service, and shewing distinctly the time when, the special occasion for which, and the number of men actually on board him at the time he addressed himself to my Lord Inchiquin for the several parcels of soldiers or other supernumeraries for whose victuals he now prays allowance, In order to their Lordships giving further directions touching the same, as also for their signifying to the Commission for Tangier the names of the said soldiers from whom victuals are to be stopped there for the time they were victualled upon the King's ships. ORDERED also, that though the purser of the Drake be to be allowed for the victualling of his supernumeraries, as being done by his captain's acknowledged order, and that his said captain (Captain Stepney), being since dead, cannot be called to the giving the like account for his ship, yet before the said victuals be allowed to the said purser he be required to give as good an account as can

¹ The Earl of Inchiquin was governor of Tangier.

be reasonably expected from him in the particulars here demanded of Sir Richard Rooth.

Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty in the matter lately reported to him by the Officers of the Navy touching several naval stores, some embezzled and others remaining at Kinsale in Ireland out of the possession of the proper officer of the navy there, as also that the title by which several persons do now possess houses within his Majesty's yard there deserve to be inquired into; ORDERED, that a memorial thereof be put into the hand of his Grace the Duke of Ormonde, now going Lord Lieutenant thither.¹

A letter from Mr. Hugh May to Mr. Pepys being read, praying a supply of 5 or 6 old sails for the securing the finishing of some choice flowers and joinery-work now finishing for his Majesty at Windsor, and the Surveyor of the Navy saying that the same may be supplied out of the stores; ORDERED, that the same be done, upon a receipt to be given for the same by Mr. May's order and promise of returning the same into the stores when the said work shall be finished, The Officers of the Navy reporting to the Lords the value of the said sails.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy being read, wherein they propose it as a thing necessary for his Majesty's service that to the present storekeeper and master-shipwright there be added a clerk of the check in his Majesty's yard at Harwich, to be continued during the times these 30 ships shall be in building, and those 3 they propose as sufficient to answer all the occasions of that yard unless any further service shall be required there more than the building of the said 30 ships; ORDERED, that such an officer be appointed to that yard, and that John Browne, an inhabitant of that place, formerly an officer of that yard, and recommended in this letter by the Officer[s] of the Navy to this employment, be appointed thereto.

At the motion of my Lord Privy Seal that one Edward Hall, son of Mr. Robert Hall, servant of the late Lord Clarendon,² about the age of 15 years, prevailed with to list himself for a soldier among the recruits now going to

¹ See *D. N. B.*, viii. 59.

² Edward Hyde, the first Earl of Clarendon, died in 1674.

Tangier upon the Plymouth, Sir John Narbrough commander, may be released, his father desiring it; The same was granted.

Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty and my Lords that by a late letter from the Lieutenant-Governor of Plymouth he had understood that the said Governor¹ had upon his Majesty's order, signified by Mr. Secretary Coventry, enclosed in another from my Lord of Bath,² set at liberty Captain Dragger and his lieutenant, who for some injuries and affronts by him done to his Majesty and his subjects were by Order of his Majesty in Council in March last directed to be proceeded against according to the course of the Admiralty, with directions to the Lords Commissioners thereof to cause the informations against the said Dragger and his lieutenant to be to that purpose sent to the Judge of the Admiralty his surrogate, and that in the mean time they should be continued in safe custody by the said Lieutenant-Governor, In both of which their Lordships have proceeded to the giving effectual order,³ and matters were prepared in the Admiralty Court for the trying of the said Dragger and his lieutenant, upon which Mr. Pepys prayed direction touching the further proceedings of the said Court; ORDERED, that his Majesty having by this his extraordinary order discharged the said prisoners, notice thereof should be given to the said surrogate in order to the stopping any further proceeding against them.

The Board being acquainted by Mr. Pepys with Sir John Holmes's desire out of the Downs that as well for the surer and more speedy conveyance of his Majesty's letters between his ships and those there, as the saving the boats of his ships and lives of his subjects (often miscarrying therein) in the carrying and fetching of letters, an ordinary Deal yawl⁴ might be built, to be under the direction of the commander-in-chief in the Downs for the said work of transporting of letters, and the Officers of

¹ MS. 'gunner.'

² See *D. N. B.*, xxiii. 120. John Grenville, Earl of Bath, was governor of Plymouth, and Colonel Piper was lieutenant-governor under him.

³ See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3841, 3865, 3891, 3933.

⁴ MS. 'yoale.'

the Navy answering to the question about the charge of building such a yawl that the same would not exceed £10; ORDERED, that a yawl be built for that service accordingly by the Officers of the Navy.

A letter from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] being read, giving an account by advice from Mr. St. Michel,¹ muster-master in the Downs, that several of the commanders of ships there do refuse to deliver him books such as by his instructions he is required to demand from them, wherein their men are to be rated and clothes set off; ORDERED, that Sir John Holmes be writ to to signify his Majesty[']s and their Lordships' dissatisfaction with the said commanders, (and especially Captain Delavall,² particularly named for the same, alleging his not being enjoined thereto by his instructions), and to require their delivering such books so prepared to the said muster-master, as they will answer the same at their peril.

The Board being informed by Mr. Pepys that [by] the state of the present year's declaration made in May last by Sir Anthony Deane, and consideration had of further quantities of victuals issued since, It is apparently necessary that a supplemental declaration for victuals be made for the carrying on the service through the present year, and his Majesty and their Lordships being upon debate satisfied therein; ORDERED, that such a supplemental declaration be accordingly prepared by Mr. Pepys upon advising with the Officers of the Navy, and in particular the Comptroller of the Victualling,³ so soon as he shall be returned to town, and that the same be presented to the Council Table for confirmation there, according to practice.

Consideration being had of [a] demand lately made from Sir John Holmes out of the Downs touching the additional number of men to be added to his complement upon account of his flag, in the opening of which it was observed that the additions of men lately proposed by the Officers of the Navy to be allowed to flags of a fleet in time of war, where many accidents happen requiring the same which are not so much to be met with in time of

¹ Balthazar St. Michel was the brother-in-law of Pepys.

² Commander of the Constant Warwick.

³ Sir Anthony Deane.

peace ; ORDERED, that 10¹ men and no more be allowed for the present to Sir John Narbrough for his, and till a more settled establishment shall be made of other additions for those extraordinary flags.

The petition of Mr. Nagle read the last meeting, being at the importunity of the petitioner read again this day, praying present payment of 3 small tickets of the year '66, and it being now taken into more particular consideration that the said Nagle has lost his hearing in his Majesty's service, and that besides the necessity of the said petitioner the whole 3 tickets amount not to above the sum of £12 8s. 7d. ; ORDERED, upon these prevailing considerations, that his case be referred to the Treasurer and the rest of the Officers of the Navy, to find some expedient that the said tickets may be so paid forthwith to the petitioner (as some few others have in like extraordinary cases been heretofore done) that the doing thereof be not so exposed to public notice as to invite or be made a precedent for others to demand the same.

A letter from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] being read, in relation to what is before entered this day touching the transporting of letters between the ships and the shore in the Downs, wherein for the reasons there mentioned the said Officers do desire to know whether the postmaster at Deal be not obliged to send off all the King's packets, the town of Deal having advantages to launch off to sea upon extraordinary occasions when a ship's boat cannot be adventured on shore, alleging (as they are informed) that there are more boats and oars consumed in a year from their going on shore for letters than would pay the charge of a particular boat for that purpose ten times over, besides the loss of many lives therein ; Adding that there is paid at the post-house for each letter directed on board any ship one penny more than is paid for ordinary letters, and the said penny extraordinary is in consideration of the postmaster's

¹ MS. '100.' The text is obscure, but it is cleared up by the margin : '10 men allowed Sir John Holmes as an addition to his complement upon account of his flag ; the like to Sir John Narbrough.' The additional retinues finally assigned in the establishment of 3rd November, 1677, are given in *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 241.

charge in sending it from the shore to the ship, with this doubt, whether if the weather be not fair or the number of letters to be sent off few, letters may not sometimes (to the great prejudice of his Majesty's service) be found to lie in the post-house 2 or 3 days ere they be sent off ; ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do speak upon this matter with Colonel Whitby who manageth the Post Office, and report the same to their Lordships.

The victuallers of the navy complain that there is no place at Tangier for receiving and securing beverage for the King's ships ; it is therefore ordered that Mr. Pepys write to Mr. Sheeres for his opinion.¹

A petition of George Soleby being read, shewing that an arrear is due to him upon his pension of £200 per annum (as Apothecary to his Majesty) for the space of 5 years ending 25th March, 1669, and praying that his bill for the same may be entered in course for payment ; ORDERED, that the same be referred to the Officers of the Navy for their reporting how far the said petition may be granted, without breach of rule or occasioning a precedent for others to claim the like favour by.

The charges of Colonel Piper, Governor of Plymouth, for sending up Geraudeau² and Dragger,³ to be stated by Mr. Pepys to the satisfaction of the said Governor and reported to the Lords.

JUNE 10, 1677

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Chancellor ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys attending, according to order, yesterday at the Admiralty, Mr. Goold's letter from Dorsetshire⁴ was read touching some Algereens carrying an English vessel to Algier, and being upon consulting the Treaty, found

¹ The margin adds : ' in building a magazine near the mole.' Mr. Henry Sheeres (*D. N. B.*, lii. 10) was the engineer in charge of the mole.

² See *Admiralty Letters*, Nos. 3612, 3650, 3706, 3738, 3750, 3865.

³ See *ib.*, No. 3865.

⁴ MS. ' Dorchestershire.'

that though by the Treaty the master of the said ship ought to have had a Straits pass in the place where he was met with, had he depended for his safety upon a pass, she being not within the King's seas, yet as being manned all with English she ought upon sight thereof to have been discharged; It was ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do give an extract of the said letter to Mr. Secretary Coventry, and that Mr. Secretary do write forthwith to the Consul at Argier directing him to demand restitution of the said ship and goods upon that consideration, urging the violence offered to the Treaty in this action, and moreover noting to[o] that forasmuch as several of the ships of that Government are observed at this time to come within his Majesty's seas, which extend as far as Cape Finisterre¹ southward, they are not to exact from his Majesty's subjects any passes at all, but permit them to pass without any interruption.

JUNE 15, 1677

[*Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Arlington; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty and my Lords this day for their directions touching the 2 French men-of-war, namely, the *Fidèle* and *Pomponne*,² lately brought in from off of Boulogne³ by his Majesty's ships the *Newcastle* and *Saudades*, and which appeared to be 2 of the 3 which not long since not only refused but opposed with shot the striking to his Majesty's flag upon their meeting with the *Francis*⁴; RESOLVED, that the captain[s] of the said ships be delivered over to the Marshal of the Admiralty to be tried for their said contempt by a Commission of Oyer and Terminer in the Admiralty, and that the said ships also be brought into Sheerness, there to be laid up until the said trial be over.

¹ MS. 'Finister.' On the extravagance of the 17th century claims to control the seas and their want of definition, see T. W. Fulton, *The Sovereignty of the Sea*, pp. 10-12, 15-21.

² MS. 'Fidelle and Pompone.' The margin describes them as 'French privateers.'

³ MS. 'Buloigne.'

⁴ See *Admiralty Letters*, No. 3813.

Sir John Narbrough to be informed of the proceedings of the Algerines contrary to the treaty, in order that he may demand satisfaction.

Also that he be instructed to bring to an issue what hath been so long depending at Algier touching the taking off the limitation of our passes to a year.

As also to take notice to them of their ships coming very high into his Majesty's seas, and to adjust with them the method of their behaviour towards, and what they are to expect from, his Majesty's subjects in his said seas, which they are to be made to understand the extent of, viz., as far as Cape Finisterre.¹

As also to visit Tripoli for the confirmation of our sole peace with them, he carrying presents, and letters with him to the said Government, The letters to be left blank, to be filled by Sir John Narbrough with the name and style of the person or persons in whose hands he shall find the Government remaining at the time of his arrival.

To inform himself, before he goeth, upon the Exchange in what matters of complaint any of the merchants have to make against Mr. Martin, the King's Consul at Argier, (of which some are said to be), and to require satisfaction therein from the said Consul.

Power of renewing any of the treaties his Majesty now hath on the Barbary coast, where he shall find any change to have happened in the Government.

To have a letter of acknowledgment from his Majesty to the Grand Master of Malta, but no presents.

To be supplied with a fireship to be hastened after him.

To be furnished with money or credit for contingencies and short allowance.

Mr. Pepys to give a copy of so many of these particulars to Mr. Secretary Coventry as are to pass through his office ; himself being to take care of the remainder.

Mr. Pepys taking notice that the Virginia ship going with victuals for fetching back the soldiers there was upon the point of being ready to sail, Mr. Secretary Coventry had it committed to him to consider and dispatch what (if anything) should be requisite to be wrote from his Majesty thither upon the arrival of Sir William Berkley.²

¹ MS. 'Finister.'

² Sir William Berkeley had resigned the governorship of Virginia in 1676, and was now expected home (*D. N. B.*, iv. 369).

JUNE 16, 1677

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Chamberlain ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

RESOLVED, that the company upon the two French ships mentioned yesterday be supplied with victuals by his Majesty so long as they shall remain detained, after their own victuals shall be expended.

Sir Richard Rooth's petition read the 9th instant and now amended, is referred to the Officers of the Navy for report.

A second account read from another hand touching a violence lately offered at sea to a ship of his Majesty's subjects called the *George*, But so imperfect, like the former, as not to give light enough for the grounding any demand of satisfaction upon, or directing any of his Majesty's ships to look out for, the offender.

The Officers of the Navy are directed to consider and report the condition of the *Holmes*, as to her fitness for the being presently set to sea as a fireship to attend Sir John Narbrough.

The repairing of the *Drake* is also recommended to their particular care, so as that she may be in a condition to go to sea the next winter.

The Navy Officers to consider the sum of money requisite to be provided for Sir John Narbrough for contingent expenses and short allowance money.

Lieutenant Hastings, who brought home the Quaker ketch from the Straits, is to return to the *Assurance*.

Information being upon this occasion given his Majesty and my Lords that Captain Atkins, late commander of the said ketch, is now so well recovered¹ as that he has been seen often walking in the streets of this town, though he has not yet attended his Majesty or the Lords, Mr. Pepys was directed to consider and report to the Board in what present condition we are for producing of the evidences needful for the making good the matter charged upon the said captain in his delivering up his said ketch to the Turks, in order to his being (as

¹ See 10th February.

soon as may be) called to an account for the same at a court-martial.¹

The estimate of the charge of the chains and medals for 'the late great action at Tripoli' approved.

Mr. Pepys gave an account of the readiness of the Virginia ship.²

A report being read from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] of a quantity of old decayed provisions remaining in his Majesty's stores, unfit for other use than to be sold by the candle³ and [which] at this time pestered the said stores; ORDERED, that the same be accordingly sold, and a privy seal taken out to that purpose.

A like report being read from the said O[fficers], and orders directed to be sent thereupon to the Master of the Ordnance touching a supply of powder for Chatham.

A like report from them being read, of the complaints to them made from the under-officers of the Sapphire touching their sufferings and ill-usage from their commander, Captain Thomas Harman, and Mr. Pepys reporting that the same has been confirmed by a frequent application of the said officers' wives to him for information when the said ship⁴ would be called home, in order to their husbands being relieved from the said commander's ill behaviour towards them, they declaring their desire of being rather discharged with the loss of their offices than remain longer under the same; RESOLVED, that the said ship be called home, and the said captain required to answer to what is so complained of against him by his officers, his Majesty and my Lords being made sensible that the said captain doth lie under the report of being sometimes disturbed in his understanding, through the wounds (as is apprehended) he has received in his head.⁵

A report being made by the O[fficers of the] N[avy] of a proposal offered them of having some ships built by

¹ On the case of Captain Atkins, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. iii. p. xxxviii.

² See 15th June.

³ *Margin*: 'To expose old naval provisions to sale by inch of candle.' On this method of sale see Hollond, *Discourses of the Navy*, pp. 284-5.

⁴ MS. 'ships.'

⁵ Charnock's account (*Biog. Nav.*, i. 335) represents Harman as an officer of high distinction. He died 10th September, 1677.

contract at the Pile of Fowdrey¹; His Majesty, upon the considerations generally urged and heretofore mentioned² against the building of any of the 30 ships by contract, was pleased, with the advice of the Lords, to commit it to the Officers of the Navy to consider whether it might turn to any account in the good husbandry of it to have any of the timber growing in those parts³ brought about hither to be here employed, and, if any such good husbandry could be found in it, to proceed to the treating and contracting for the same with the present proposer. Or in case the said proposer will not deal with them on that account, to consider of what benefit it may be in the price of the said building (all charges of bringing the said ship about and sending of men and stores to her being considered) for his Majesty to contract for the building of a ship or two there upon the consideration inducing him to proceed by contract at Bristol, viz., That the timber that shall be employed in the building of the ships will not otherwise in all probability be employed to that use, and consequently take up so much the more of that material to be found here.

My Lord Hatton's report being read⁴ touching the matter complained of by Captain White about freight pretended to be due to him for the Hatton ketch, the same was found in no way sufficient to entitle his Majesty to the payment of any part thereof beyond what he has already done; and therefore RESOLVED, that the said Captain White be left to take his remedy against the Lord Hatton without expecting his Majesty's further interesting himself therein.

The case of the Love being read, upon representation thereof from Mr. Deud, prays a pass for her as an English ship, for that though originally Dutch-built she was wrecked upon the English coast, and about £300 has been bestowed in the rebuilding her, upon her wreck not valued at above £10; RESOLVED, that in consideration of the said loss and charges, a pass according to the Treaty with Holland be granted her, but not as an English ship, The Commissioners of the Customs having formerly in her

¹ The Pile (peel) or castle of Fowdrey was near Lancaster.

² See p. 414 above.

³ MS. 'ports.'

⁴ See 12th May.

case declared that no degree of repair or rebuilding can denominate a foreign vessel English, besides that she appears to be rebuilt in her Dutch form, so as she cannot in her build be ever admitted for English.

A report from the N[avy] O[fficers] being read touching Captain Booth's failures in his compliance with the Lord High Admiral's Instructions, the same was remitted to him, upon account of his having received his commission from the Prince at sea without any instructions given him therewith.

A like report being read from the said Officers of Captain Killigrew's failures in the *Henrietta* and *Harwich*, and his answer thereto, upon being called in, found very imperfect and unsatisfactory ; ORDERED, that a copy of the said report be given him, in order to his considering and presenting to my Lords some more perfect reply thereto.

An Order of Council being read, referring to my Lords the granting of a pass to a ship belonging to Guernsey, the case of the said ship was debated, and the granting her a pass judged reasonable and accordingly ORDERED.

A petition being read from Mr. Le Mosse for a pass for a ship of English propriety now in Holland bound for the southward ; RESOLVED, that if she will come over either into the Downs or to Portsmouth, where she may be certified for according to rule, she may have a pass, or otherwise not.

RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy do give their Lordships a weekly report in writing of their progression and present state of their works, both in the building of the 30 new and repairing the old ships.

• JUNE 22, 1677

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Sir John Narbrough attending.]

A letter from Consul Martin at Algier, bearing date 31st of May last, to Mr. Secretary Coventry was read by him, wherein the said Consul gives an account of three ships and two small vessels lately carried in thither

expressly contrary to our Treaty, from whence he seems to apprehend that that people mean a breach with us,¹ upon which (Sir John Narbrough being present) the whole matter of sending Sir John Narbrough thither with instructions to demand full restitution, and upon denial thereof to declare war, was fully debated and RESOLVED upon, Notwithstanding the far spending of the year, the notice requisite to be given, the smallness of our strength abroad, unreadiness to spare any force from hence, the lowness of our provisions here and the like both of provisions and stores abroad, were distinctly mentioned and considered; The importance of it to his Majesty's honour to see justice done to his subjects by these people making it necessary for his Majesty to appear speedy and vigorous in this matter, though to the contracting upon him the charge of a war, and present prejudice to him in his customs.

Upon which it was RESOLVED, that the Portland, Diamond, and Kingfisher should be immediately put into a condition of accompanying or following Sir John Narbrough into the Straits, and that a small vessel be to that purpose sent into the Soundings to call in the Kingfisher.

RESOLVED also, that Sir Thomas Clutterbuck be spoke withal about what provision of victuals he can presently² make in the Straits for answering the occasions of a fleet, in case of war.

Also, that the complements of men on the ships going now to the Straits and those already there be raised to the complements for time of war in foreign service.

That a vessel of stores of all sorts be put in providing to follow Sir John Narbrough.

That Sir John Narbrough be instructed to give advice to our merchants abroad as soon as he can after he shall find that matters will come to a rupture between us and Algier.

That the Roebuck and Francis be with all speed fitted for fireships, and that $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen of sloops also be fitted to follow Sir John Narbrough.

That in case Sir J. N. do meet with any of the Algereens'

¹ A war with Algiers began in the autumn of 1677.

² Immediately.

ships in his way thither, he endeavour to seize them and take them along with him.

That the Pearl be stopped by this post from coming home, with orders to remain in the Straits to join with Sir John Narbrough.

That Sir J. N.'s demand now by him tendered of a small supply extraordinary of powder, shot, and gunner's stores be answered him.

RESOLVED also, that Captain Wyborne, captain of the Pearl, have a medal allowed him for his extraordinary service heretofore at Martinice.¹

JUNE 23, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

A petition being read from a master praying the discharge of an apprentice of his, who has entered himself as a soldier for Tangier and is on board the Plymouth or Woolwich bound for that place, the same was agreed to, upon his master's repaying the 20s. advance money and the value of the clothes he has been furnished with by his Majesty.

Mr. Page the purser praying that, forasmuch [as] it appears the passing of his accounts doth not depend upon him but upon the report expected from Mr. Speaker in relation to the matters charged upon him, the said Page, by Jones the informant, he may be at liberty to receive his harbour wages stopped from him by the Navy Office of course, upon the score of his accounts not being passed; The same was judged reasonable and agreed to.

A letter was read from my Lord Vaughan ² at Jamaica, intimating his purpose of sending home the Phoenix as wanting repair and praying another may be sent in her room; which his Majesty thought may be timely

¹ See note on p. 462 below.

² Governor of Jamaica; see *D. N. B.*, lviii. 173.

enough done by the ship that shall be appointed to carry the Earl of Carlisle¹ to succeed my Lord Vaughan in his government, which is judged will be about September next.

A petition being read of one Sarah Andrews, widow of one Andrews wounded in his Majesty's service at sea, whereof a short time after it appears by good certificate he died on shore, that she might have the benefit of the King's bounty to the widows of persons slain at sea²; The same was granted.

An Order of Council brought and read, for passes to be immediately granted to some persons belonging to the fishery, which as not being here cannot be surveyed, and so dispensation is needful for the rendering them capable of passes; Passes were by the King's command immediately prepared and signed at the Board.

A petition was read and granted, of one Ireland, praying an allowance for some sick Dutchmen put on shore at Southwold out of an East India prize, and by him entertained as if they had been the King's subjects put on shore out of his own ships.

A petition being read of one Stallworthy, praying that he may have the ordinary allowance of a chaplain for the time during which he appears by certificate from Sir Richard Munden to have officiated as such on board him in his last voyage to St. Helena; But was denied, in regard the petitioner appears not to be in orders, and consequently that there being no regular chaplain on board, the groats do fall to the poor of the Chest.³

A petition of Mr. Sidney the merchant being read, praying the renewing of a pass for a ship of his abroad, upon declaration sent from him from Livorne, under the hand of a public notary, that the propriety of the ship remains the same as it was at the granting of the pass; The petition was thought reasonable and agreed to.

The two French vessels⁴ and their commanders to be delivered into the hands of the Marshal of the Admiralty and their companies discharged.

¹ See *D. N. B.*, xxviii. 6, and *The Complete Peerage* (ed. Vicary Gibbs), iii. 33.

² See *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 134.

³ See *ib.*, i. 205 n.

⁴ See 15th June.

The N[avy] O[fficers] present an account in writing¹ of their proceedings in the works upon the old and new ships, shewing that they shall find places for their going in hand with 15 new ships together within the present year, and all by his Majesty's own officers and workmen, that only at Bristol excepted, which Mr. Baylie builds by contract.

N[avy] O[fficers] report that it will be better to furnish Sir John Narbrough with his short allowance and contingent money by credits to be answered him abroad than by ready money to be advanced to him here.

The Phoenix leaky, and of little use at Jamaica.

His Majesty being acquainted with the number of the yards of old canvas desired by Mr. May² for his Majesty's bird-cage in St. James's Park, amounting to about 80 yards; The same was ORDERED to be delivered him.

A small vessel to be sent to convoy the Virginia victualling-ship out of the Channel.

ORDERED, that the moneys due to Captain Tyte and his company for their wages in the Richmond yacht be paid.

The Newcastle to accompany the Portland and Diamond in lieu of the Kingfisher.³

ORDERED, at the instance of my Lord Bishop of London, that the vessels employed in the bringing of stones from Portland for the building of St. Paul's Church be protected from pressing.

Mr. Rowse to be provided for as a superannuated officer by a pension, 'he being by age rendered unfit to take the charge any more as a master of any of his Majesty's . . . great ships.'

Sir Thomas Goold petitioning for an allowance for the service of a ship of his taken up and employed for his Majesty's use at Virginia in the time of the late

¹ See 16th June.

² Cf. 9th June.

³ See 22nd June.

rebellion there ; RESOLVED, that the same be referred to the N[avy] O[fficers] for examination, and that, the matter of fact being proved, they do make him an allowance of freight for the said ship according to her burthen and time of service as if the same had been thereto regularly paid.

His Majesty being moved by the Surveyor of the Navy for his allowing him and the rest of his fellow Officers to make use of his plank, treenails, and any other stores for the forwarding the work of the new ships in the same manner and upon the same terms as he was lately pleased to allow of the employing of his timber to that use ; His Majesty, out of his desire of giving all furtherance to the building of the said ships, was pleased readily to agree thereto.

A report from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] being read, touching the demand of Sir Thomas Lynch's for the payment of some tickets wherein he was concerned at Jamaica,¹ their Lordships agreeing with the said Officers in their reasons against the payments of the said tickets.

A petition being read in the name of the officers of his Majesty's yards in general for an increase of their wages, the same was upon reading judged of too much charge to his Majesty to receive any present answer in its favour, and yet of too much discouragement to the said officers to be totally rejected ; and therefore it was ORDERED that the same be referred to the N[avy] O[fficers] to examine the inducements alleged by the said officers for the said increase of wages, and to report their opinion touching the same distinctly with reference to the different case and merit of each officer.

My Lord Treasurer moving that, for his more regular proceeding to the appointment of the payments out of the moneys arising upon the Act for the building of the 30 ships, estimates may in due form be prepared by the O[fficers of the] N[avy] and signed by my Lords of the distinct charge of the hulls and rigging and sea stores of the said ships (guns and gunner's stores excepted, which appertain to the Officers of the Ordnance) ; It was agreed to and ORDERED.

¹ Sir Thomas Lynch had been governor of Jamaica from 1670 to 1676 (*D. N. B.*, xxxiv. 337).

A petition of one being read for leave to arrest a person in his Majesty's service who had the usual notice thereof ; the same was agreed to.

JUNE 24, 1677

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Sir John Narbrough attending.]

Mr. Secretary Coventry's draft of instructions to Sir John Narbrough in reference to peace and war with Algier and his visiting of Tunis and Tripoli, was read and finished.

RESOLVED also upon debate, that in case of a breach with Algier Sir J. N. do visit Port Mahon,¹ and give as speedy an account hither as he can of the present condition of that place for answering his Majesty's service.

It was recommended to Sir John Narbrough to assign the Assurance and some one small vessel to attending the business of Tangier and Sallee, as much as that of Algier will give leave.

Left to Sir John Narbrough to proceed to Algier, or stay about Tangier for the arrival of the ships which are to follow him hence before he proceeds thither.

JUNE 27, 1677

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Ormonde ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Sir John Narbrough attending.]

The business being debated touching the ship Justice, lately brought in from before Ostend in pursuance of his Majesty's Order in Council to that purpose, and it appearing by several papers produced by Mr. Secretary Coventry that she is not a privateer but² one of the King of Spain's own ships ; RESOLVED, that she be forthwith discharged, assigning that for the reason of it.

¹ MS. ' Porto Mohone.'

² MS. ' by.'

Then were Sir John Narbrough's instructions once more ¹ considered, and made positive for his insisting upon the utmost restitution of the strangers and goods, as well as ships, taken from us.

RESOLVED also, for preventing the dispute which was made by the Grand ² Master of Malta touching his reception of Sir John Narbrough for want of the title of admiral, that of commander-in-chief not being enough understood by him, that in his Majesty's letter to the said Grand ³ Master Sir John Narbrough have the title of admiral.

Sir John N. taking notice that if the harbour of Tangier could by its being cleared of loose rocks be made a place capable of careening his Majesty's ships, Tangier would be a place of much more use and service to his Majesty than Port Mahon ⁴ in case of any accident in the Straits, and the same being debated and allowed, with great satisfaction to his Majesty and my Lords; RESOLVED, that Mr. Sheeres ⁵ be writ to about the clearing of the said harbour, and that Sir J. N. also do confer with him about it at his arrival there.

JUNE 30, 1677

[*Present:* The King; Duke of Ormonde; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain. Navy Officers attending.]

Several petitions being read, and some among them for payment of moneys due to them, as they pretend, upon the same score for which provision is made by his Majesty on behalf of the bankers; RESOLVED, that it be referred to the O[fficers of the] N[avy] to state and report to the Lords the value of that particular head of the navy debt wherein the nature of it calls for the same method of satisfaction to be taken for its payment with that of the bankers.

A petition of Anderson of Chester read and granted,

¹ See 24th June.

² MS. 'Great.'

³ So in MS.

⁴ MS. 'Porta Mahone.'

⁵ MS. 'Sheere.' See note on p. 448 above.

for the satisfying him £120 odd for which several years ago he gave credit to his Majesty there in ready money, without profit, at a time of great exigence for the dispatching out a ship of his Majesty's, and this upon a bill of exchange. Which case being extraordinary in all those circumstances, their Lordships thought it both reasonable and of no dangerous consequence in the precedent of it (the case of bills of exchange unpaid being very rare), that the said debt should be paid as the petitioner desires, by his bill for the same being allowed for the clearing of an imprest.

ORDERED, that the Consul at Argier be writ to upon a petition of one Grove for an account how he came to be twice paid for the redemption of the slave.

A bill of charge amounting to £46 10s. being presented to the Board by Sir Samuel Morland¹ for the brass frames and roller for his Majesty's new yacht at Woolwich,² his Majesty was upon the reading thereof pleased to allow it, and to order his being paid by the O[fficers of the] N[avy].

A certificate being read from Sir John Narbrough of the extraordinary service performed by Captain John Wyborne,³ commander of the Joseph fireship in the Road of Martince⁴ in the year '67, wherein he boarded and burned the French admiral and with her 7 French ships of war more; ORDERED, that he have a medal of usual value given him as his Majesty's reward for the same.

A report being read from [the] O[fficers of the] N[avy] touching several workmen pressed into his Majesty's service, some whereof refuse to appear at all, and others appear, but not at the proper yards for which they were pressed; ORDERED, that the former be taken into custody, and an account given to this Board by the O[fficers of the] N[avy] of the names of the latter to be further considered on.

ORDERED, That the 3 ships, Portland, Diamond, and Newcastle, designed to follow Sir John Narbrough to the

¹ On Sir Samuel Morland the inventor, see *D. N. B.*, xxxix. 68.

² The Charlotte.

³ This exploit is not referred to in Charnock's account (*Biog. Nav.*, i. 278).

⁴ Probably St. Martin's Road, off Rochelle.

Straits and now taking in victuals in the Downs, do (when their victuals are in) repair to Portsmouth, there to be supplied with stores for their voyage.

Upon application made by Mr. Graves, his Majesty's boatmaker, to that purpose; ORDERED, that whereas of his two only servants one is actually gone into his Majesty's yard and he hath at this time upon his hands work to be done for each of their Majesties which he cannot perform if his other servant be taken from him, his said other servant, John Plumer, may be protected from the press for the performance of the said work.

A report being read from the Officers [of the] N[avy] of the want of a more convenient mast-house at Chatham, and also of docks for preserving of masts at each of his Majesty's yards of Deptford, Woolwich, and Chatham, and also shewing the benefits that would arise to his Majesty thereby; RESOLVED, that the O[fficers of the] N[avy] be directed to prepare estimates for the building of the said house and docks, in order to their being enabled to proceed to the performance thereof accordingly.

An estimate being presented by the O[fficers of the] N[avy], according to order, of the charge of building, rigging, and furnishing with sea stores the 30 ships designed by the Parliament, wherein it was noted that the same was calculated by the dimensions assigned to the said ships by his Majesty, without including the charge of guns and gunner's stores, the same was approved and signed.

20 more blank passes to be delivered to Sir Cyril Wyche¹ for the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Captain Killigrew's² wages to be paid, provided that he proves his compliance with the Lord High Admiral's Instructions.

RESOLVED by his Majesty upon debate, that each of the 2nd-rates now ordered to be built have a forecastle.

Sir Anthony Deane³ being now returned to town, it

¹ MS. 'Sir Syrrell Winch.' Wyche was one of the earliest fellows of the Royal Society, and in 1683 immediately preceded Pepys as president. The text suggests an earlier connexion with Ireland than that assigned to him in *D. N. B.*, lxiii. 192.

² See *D. N. B.*, xxxi. 109. ³ Comptroller of the victualling.

is recommended to him to hasten all that may be the present state of the victualling declaration of the present year.

His Majesty and my Lords were informed, to their great satisfaction, in what the Trinity House have lately done in the sounding and buoying out both the old and new channels leading over the Flats, according as the same is lately published in the *Gazette*.

Captain Voteer's failures in complying with the Lord High Admiral's Instructions as commander of the *Ann* and *Christopher* fireship remitted, 'upon the score of his not being able to write and read'; but that he 'be admonished from his Majesty and my Lords by Mr. Pepys to apply himself to the learning (as late as it is) of both.'

Consideration being again ¹ had of Mr. Jacob Rowse, who has been master of 1st and 2nd-rate ships, and his ability therein amply certified by many commanders of the best note, that forasmuch as by age he is rendered unfit to take further charge of his Majesty's said ships (as master) he be taken off from his allowance of $\frac{1}{2}$ pay and admitted to a pension upon the establishment of superannuated officers.

An account being read of a certain ship of Bridhempson ² called the *Friend's Desire*, Francis Masters master, being met with at sea and carried away towards Algier; ORDERED, that the said account be put into the hands of Sir John N[arbrough] with the rest that are to have satisfaction demanded for from that people.

A like account being read of one Robert Eldred of violence done to the ship *West Friesland*, first by a Dunkirker and then by 3 Ostenders; ORDERED, that he be directed to give in the description or name of any of the said vessels, or the names of their commanders, as that without which nothing can be done towards the obtaining satisfaction from them.

A report being read from Sir John Holmes of the sentence of the late court-martial upon the pilot and master of the *Diamond*,³ for their late miscarriage in the danger they brought the said ship into in the transporting her to the Downs; The said sentence was well

¹ See 23rd June.

² Brighthelmston, Brighton.

³ See 2nd June.

approved of, by which the said pilot is condemned to six months imprisonment with his being rendered incapable of any future trust as pilot, and the said master incapacitated also from ever taking charge more of any of the King's ships. Whereof the Officers of the Navy and the Corporation of the Trinity House are respectively to take notice.

A petition being read from one Thomas Smith, praying some allowance from his Majesty for the enabling him to make proof of a pretended invention of his of an extraordinary pump; His Majesty, who seemed already informed and satisfied in the folly of the said invention, was pleased to reject the said petition.

The widow of Captain Lassells, lately deceased, to receive her husband's pay.

Consideration being had of the great charge his Majesty remains at at this day in the keeping of the galley at Tangier, without any probability of having any benefit from her service, As also the great damage which she has been reported from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] to have already received in her hull by the worm; His Majesty was pleased to signify his pleasure that the said galley, together with all the remainder of her furniture belonging to her of all sorts (her guns only excepted) be delivered into the possession of Sir Roger Strickland,¹ knight, and George Legge, esquire,² as his Majesty's free gift and bounty to them equally, in consideration of the acceptable service by them severally performed to his Majesty, with direction that the necessary warrants be issued for the rendering effectual to them this his Majesty's bounty.

The case of Widow Newell³ being once more brought before the Lords, the same was referred again to the O[fficers of the] N[avy] to consider of the bond now discovered by Sir Thomas Littleton,⁴ by which the moneys demanded by the said widow is said to have been effectually made good to her husband in his lifetime.

¹ On the services of Sir Roger Strickland, see *D. N. B.*, lv. 52.

² On the services of George Legge, afterwards Lord Dartmouth, see *D. N. B.*, xxxii. 408.

³ MS. 'Nuell.'

⁴ See note on p. 317 above.

JULY 7, 1677

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Lord Ossory ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

The general establishment of men and guns to be considered at the Board this day sevensnight.

A report read and approved from the . . Officers touching the number of men fit to be allowed to the two fireships and double sloops for their present intended voyage to the Straits.

Another like report from the said O[fficers] being read, touching some ill-usage received by Mr. Betts, his Majesty's master-shipwright at Harwich, from the magistrates, and particularly one Mr. England of Yarmouth, at his the said Betts's late being there for the pressing of workmen for the service of the new ships building at Harwich, to the hindrance and discouragement of the said master-shipwright in execution of his warrant from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] for the pressing of the said workmen ; Mr. Secretary Coventry is directed to summon the said Mr. England to attend his Majesty in Council upon Friday next to answer for the same, with direction also to Mr. Pepys that Mr. Betts likewise, or some other person present at his conference with Mr. England, be required to attend at the same to justify the said complaint.

Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty, in pursuance to his resolution at the last meeting of this Board, that Captain Atkins's sickness having hindered his being brought to trial before the departure of the Quaker ketch, and the said ketch with her officers being now gone to the West Indies, the evidences will be wanting that should convict the said captain of the crime wherewith he stands charged ; ORDERED, that though by this means the said Captain Atkins cannot at present be brought to trial without prejudice to the cause wherein on his Majesty's behalf he is to be tried, his crime nevertheless is of so heinous and public a nature that he ought not to remain without some mark of his Majesty's displeasure and justice upon him ¹ so long as to the return of the said ketch, he be by

¹ *Margin* : 'Captain Atkins to relish of his Majesty's displeasure as a mark of justice for his late cowardice.'

warrant committed as an offender to the custody of the Marshal of the Admiralty, to be afterwards set at liberty, if he desire it, upon good security given of his forthcoming when by the return of the witnesses his Majesty shall be in condition to have the matter tried ; The consideration of the said Captain Atkins's being a gentleman ¹ aggravating with his cowardly delivering up of his vessel and suffering himself to be towed into Algier without one act done in opposition thereto.

A letter from Sir John Holmes ² of the 4th instant to Mr. Pepys was read, giving an account of several applications made to him for convoy for ships of his Majesty's subjects over to Dunkirk, whose desires he was not able to comply with in regard that all the ships at present under his command are designed to particular services. And thereupon Mr. Pepys humbly offering to the consideration of his Majesty and my Lords that some fresh ships might be ordered forth to enforce the Downs squadron for supply of the 3 ships, Portland, Diamond, and Newcastle, lately drawn out thereof for the following Sir John Narbrough to the Straits, consideration was had of his Majesty's present straits for money, and consequently the necessity of making the best use we can of the ships that are left, without increasing his charge by setting forth of new. A particular account being also given by Mr. Pepys of the particular present disposal, employment, and station of every ship and vessel of his Majesty's now abroad, wherein it was observed that 2 ships are at this day plying off of Ostend for the securing his Majesty's subjects against the people of that place, who are the principal (if not only) disturbers thereof complained of at this day. That two more are doing the like in the Soundings for the securing our ships going out of and coming into the Channel, and particularly the East India fleet expected home ; As also that the Norwich, lately come home from the coast of Ireland, shall be continued abroad in the Downs in case her condition after so long lying in that station will admit it. Besides, that it would be too much for his Majesty to be obliged to the

¹ He was the son of Sir Jonathan Atkins, the governor of Barbados.

² Commander-in-chief in the Downs.

charge of, to give convoy to every ship of his subjects that shall desire it in time of peace. The case only of the Hastings fishery being in particular mentioned by Mr. Pepys, as that which seems to be most in want of being assisted by a frigate or two for the preventing the French in their usurping the liberty of fishing upon our coasts without licence and interrupting his Majesty's own subjects therein, It was directed that care should be taken in that particular so soon as by the coming in of any of the ships now in foreign stations two could be spared for that service.

Notice being taken to his Majesty and my Lords by Mr. Pepys that upon some late discourse with Mr. Pett, the master-shipwright at Chatham, he understands that together with the late proposition and determination of his Majesty's for the building of ships with upright stems he, the said Mr. Pett, did design to add another great alteration in the method of building at this day generally practised, viz., in the bringing the draught of water to 2 foot less in a 2nd or 3rd-rate than has hitherto been generally allowed, And thereupon humbly moving his Majesty for his directions in that matter, and the rather for that upon discoursing the same with the Officers of the Navy, they, and particularly Sir John Tippetts and Sir Anthony Deane, seem wholly dissatisfied with the reason of the said Mr. Pett's proposition, as being wholly impracticable¹ without destroying the whole use and service of the ships; His Majesty was pleased to enter largely upon the debate of that matter with the said Officers, who giving their reasons for this their opinion, his Majesty was pleased to determine that the depth of water appointed to the several rates of ships in his late table of dimensions shall be strictly kept to, and that Mr. Pett be directed to conform himself to the same, Notwithstanding the draughts by him lately shewn his Majesty, and the present approval which he might apprehend to have been given by his Majesty thereof.

RESOLVED, that all dispatch be made in the fitting forth the Drake, as being a nimble sailer and so fit to be in readiness for any occasion his Majesty may have for her.

¹ MS. 'impracticeable.'

Sir Anthony Deane delivering this morning to the Board the present state of the victualling declaration,¹ Mr. Pepys was directed to prepare such a supplemental declaration as, upon comparing the remaining services of this year as they are now in view, together with the ships abroad, may be judged needful and sufficient for the carrying on the services.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck² also being called in, and required to give an account of the certain supplies his Majesty may depend upon from him in the Straits in case of a breach with Algier, he readily replied that his Majesty might depend upon a certain supply of victuals there from him for 10,000 men, in case his Majesty's occasions shall call for the employing so many in that sea ; with which his Majesty and my Lords being satisfied, he withdrew.

Captain Williams is ordered a medal of the usual value for his service at Bugia under Sir Edward Spragge.³

ORDERED, that it be referred to the O[fficers of the] N[avy] to treat and agree with Mr. Sheeres for a vessel by him to be converted into a hulk at Tangier for the careening⁴ of his Majesty's ships, in case the said vessel be judged for his Majesty's said service.

Their Lordships do again⁵ press the Officers [of the] Navy to give a weekly account of their progress in building of the new and repairing of the old ships, and of what difficulties and obstructions (if any) they meet withal, or can timelily foresee in their procedure thereon, As that without which their Lordships are to take it for granted they meet with no such difficulties, and expect the whole effects of their service accordingly.

Sir Richard Rooth's petition⁶ granted touching an allowance for supernumeraries.

A petition being read from the orphans of Alexander Taylor, master of the Royal Oak, who was killed in his Majesty's service against the Dutch, *anno* '66, praying present payment of their bill for his Majesty's bounty

¹ See 30th June.

² Victualler for the Mediterranean.

³ See Charnock, *Biog. Nav.*, i. 301, and *D. N. B.*, liii. 419.

⁴ See 27th June.

⁵ See 16th June.

⁶ See 9th and 16th June.

to them on that account, and shewing as argument thereto not only their general poverty but that two of the said orphans, Jean and Ann, are both deaf and dumb ; His Majesty was graciously pleased, in consideration of this their extraordinary case (not likely to be very chargeable to him by the precedent of it) that it be referred to the Treasurer and the rest of the Principal Officers [of the] Navy to find some means for the present payment of the said bill.

The like also was ORDERED, upon report now read from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] in the case of Mr. George Soleby,¹ his Majesty's Apothecary and a pensioner of the navy, viz., that his bill of £1000 upon the said petition may be entered in the 2nd book of bills of the said Officers for payment in course when the said bill shall come in course to be paid according to its entry and number in the said book, forasmuch as the same cannot become a precedent to any others, forasmuch as that they find the said Soleby¹ to have been the only pensioner belonging to the navy within the time whereto the said bill relates.

The Lords do determine to visit the Office of the Navy upon Tuesday morning next.

A petition of one Ambrose Swyer, a seaman, being read, praying that, having been entered upon the Rescue at Livorne and doing duty in her from thence homeward as a seaman, he might have his wages ; ANSWERED, that he appears to have been received only as a passenger and so entered upon the book, and so neither ought by the practice of the navy to have wages allowed him, nor can without manifest and extraordinary prejudice attending his Majesty in the chargeable consequences thereon.

Two petitions being read, one from Mr. Francis Poyntz, his Majesty's tapestry-maker, employed in the making of a suit of hangings of the naval fights, and another from Thomas Phillipps, some time employed by his Majesty in the drawing and designing of battles at sea, wherein they both pray pensions to be settled on them, the former as tapestry-maker, the other as designer of sea battles, and grounding the same upon what his Majesty has done by the two Van de Veldes,²

¹ MS. 'Solbee' ; see 9th June.

² MS. 'Vandervells' ; see *D. N. B.*, lviii. 103.

the Dutch painters, upon account of their sea-ships ; His Majesty was pleased to refuse the same until he should be in better condition in his treasure than he now is for the unnecessary multiplying of his pensions.

The Lord Privy Seal taking notice that no perfect return has yet been made from the Commissioners of the Customs to what hath been so long time since required from them by the Council Table touching an account of all the ships and vessels of England which (is supposed) would be of manifold use to his Majesty if once perfected ; ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do take care to put his Lordship in mind of moving the same again for their further order to be given therein to the said Commissioners.

JULY 10, 1677

[At the Navy Office. *Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

The Lords coming this morning to the N[avy] O[ffice], according to their determination of that meeting,¹ the principal subjects of their inquiry and discourse was touching the progress made by the O[fficers of the] N[avy] in the repair of the old and building of the new ships, their Lordships recommending it in general to the said Officers to give them a weekly account in writing of their advancement on each of the said works, and more especially of any difficulties or obstructions they either at present meet with or foresee they shall, As that without which their Lordships shall take it for granted they neither lie under nor foresee any, and consequently expect from them an account of their performances accordingly.

The only difficulty which the O[fficers of the] N[avy] seemed (at present) to foresee their meeting with in the dispatch of the new ships is a want of timber, and not only from a backwardness of gentlemen to part with their timber beyond what was expected, but from their apprehension of a real want of timber of some sorts proper for this work not to be supplied in the nation. Upon which a proposal was made of sending to visit the

¹ See 7th July.

woods in Germany of which Prince Rupert has been pleased some time to discourse. But the Officers agreed that they were not yet ripe for the offering their advice herein to his Majesty, but rather chose to have it respited till they could come to some more certain knowledge of what may be depended upon of our own growth, Closing this discourse with their wish that some means might be found for prevailing with my Lord Peters¹ to serve his Majesty with a large and most useful parcel of timber of his in Essex, formerly said to be offered to the O[fficers of the] N[avy] by the steward but now denied by his Lordship unless at a price much greater than either the market or what his steward himself lately demanded for the same.

Their Lordships then proceeded to the hearing several petitions read, and particularly of pursers, which seem most proper to be determined in at this place² in regard of the books and papers requisite to be resorted to therein. Upon the reading whereof, the Lords were pleased to debate as well the inconvenience attending his Majesty as the undue hardships arising to the pursers from their being put to get their captains' single vouchers many months (and sometimes when their said captains are abroad on other voyages or possibly knocked on the head) in proof of that that the captain hath already given under his hand to the book, and that not singly but in company with the rest of the signing officers, which ought to be esteemed of much greater authority than a subsequent voucher a great while after under the captain's hand alone. Besides the absurdity of it, that which shall be reckoned sufficient security to his Majesty for the payment of the wages, viz., the ship's books signed by the captain and the officers, shall not be thought sufficient in a matter of less charge, namely, the victualing, as in the case of supernumeraries. To which also was added the consideration of its being in proportion more necessary that the reason of bearing supernumeraries be inquired into, and justified by the captain, before the

¹ William, fourth Baron Petre, was one of the five Roman Catholic lords accused in 1678 of complicity in the Popish Plot (*D. N. B.*, xlv. 96). He died in prison in 1684.

² *I.e.*, the navy office.

wages be paid, [than] that it should be overlooked in the wages and make use of the scruple for correcting the victuals only. To which was added the consideration of the charge his Majesty has lately taken upon him of allowing each commander a clerk for the easing him in his writing work, as also the discouraging of able persons to become security for pursers when, upon the death or other miscarriage of a purser, the ship's book, signed by all the officers, which sufficeth for the discharge of every accountant else, viz., the boatswain, gunner, carpenter, and Treasurer of the Navy for the wages, shall not be enough to serve them, but they must be put to look out for vouchers unforeseen and hard (if not sometimes impossible) to be procured. All which ended in an unanimous determination that the only effectual and reasonable expedient for remedying this was, that it be declared as a standing rule in the navy for the time to come, that the captain's hand, with the rest of officers, to the ship's book shall be a full voucher and justification to the purser for all matters contained in the said book relating to the purser, and particularly for the bearing and victualling the whole company contained in the said book under the captain's and the rest of the officers' hands. And that for preventing any evil to his Majesty by supernumeraries, the ship's books be always cast by the captain, and delivered in cast, under his own and his officers' hands, to be examined and re-cast by the Comptroller of the Navy before the ship be paid, by which the King will have his satisfaction immediately from the captain before the ship be paid off or the captain receive his wages. And, lastly, that for indemnifying his Majesty against any loss that may arise from the ship's being kept in pay longer than his service requires, for want of a book to pay her off by, that loss may be made chargeable upon the captain out of his and his clerk's wages, through whose neglect in the timely casting and delivering in of the ship's books the said loss ariseth. With a rule also to be made, that no allowance, either of victuals or clothes, be granted upon a 'run' that shall hereafter be found upon the book, without a notification upon the book of the said person's running away. And it was committed to Mr. Pepys to prepare a draught of some rules conformable

to these resolutions, to be tendered to the Board for amendment or confirmation when his Majesty shall be present.

Many petitions remaining yet unanswered, and which their Lordships had not time now to give a hearing to; RESOLVED, that as well those as what from time to time hereafter shall be addressed to their Lordships, and (in their nature) call for the advice of the Officers of the Navy, as having reference to the books and papers of their Office, Mr. Pepys do take a convenient time for the reading and considering, in company with the O[fficers of the] N[avy], what answers may be reasonable to be given thereto, and to report the same, with such their joint opinion upon the respective petitions, to their Lordships for their approval or correction.

JULY 14, 1677

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty being this day, according to order,¹ attended by the O[fficers of the] N[avy] and the commanders of the fleet named in the margin² (being all now in the way of being consulted with), the business of the general establishment of men and guns, as well for the old fleet as the ships going now to be built, was taken into fresh consideration, an account being first given by Mr. Pepys of the state wherein that matter was left at its last debate. And after several points discoursed therein, the whole was unanimously assented to by the Officers both of the Navy and Fleet in the manner it was now presented to the Board by those of the Navy, conformable to what was determined thereon at former

¹ See 7th July.

² *Margin*: 'Attending, Colonel Legge, Captain Herbert, Sir Richard Rooth, Captain Wetwang, Captain Killigrew.' There is also a reference to 'a letter-book of S.P.,' p. 211; but the reference seems to be to p. 89 of MS. No. 2853 in the Pepysian Library (*Admiralty Letters*, vol. vi.), from which it appears that Sir Robert Holmes and Captain Russell were also summoned.

debates,¹ and the whole approved of by his Majesty and my Lords ; and RESOLVED, that a new draught be fairly drawn of the whole and signed to by the O[fficers of the] N[avy], to be by them presented to the Lords of the Admiralty for their approbation, and from them to be carried to the Council Table to receive its last confirmation there from the King, so as to be in no wise afterwards departed from, either by any particular commanders or the Admiral himself, unless authorised thereto by particular warrant from the Council Table.

The passing of a privy seal for the sum mentioned in a late estimate from the Navy Officers for building the 30 ships respited till the Lord Treasurer comes to town.

The Officers of the Navy present an account of the state of the King's works.

Notice being taken of the necessity of using all ways of collecting of timber for this service, Mention was made of a good supply of beechen wood and plank of his Majesty's own that (in case of extremity) might be had out of the Forest of Dean, and is allowed to answer all uses under water as well as oak. But it was RESOLVED, that the using of the said timber be let alone, till it appear how the service will be supplied otherwise.

A report from the Commissioners of the Customs read, of the reasons of their not lodging a power of issuing passes at Sandwich,² and the same allowed for very satisfactory.

An account being read from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] of two women being discovered to have listed themselves in men's habits (as soldiers) for his Majesty's service at Tangier, thereby to get passage with their husbands now going upon the Woolwich among the recruits for that place ; His Majesty was graciously pleased to allow of the said women's having their passage and victuals upon the said ship, and that they be accepted of, in discharge to Sir John Ernle,³ as if they had been soldiers.

¹ *Margin* : ' *Memorandum*, that the notes given by Mr. Pepys to Sir Richard Haddock's clerk, Michael Hale (for the use and at the desire of Sir Richard), containing the heads of the particular determinations taken upon the debates of this matter, are entered in the letter-book of the secretary of the admiralty, page 201 ' : see *Pepysian MSS.*, No. 2853.

² See p. 437 above.

³ Commander of the Woolwich.

Captain Morris's petition about freight for the Young Prince referred to the Officers of the Navy.

ORDERED, that two men complained of by the Officers of the Navy for not giving their attendance in his Majesty's yard at Chatham notwithstanding their being imprested thereto, be committed to the Marshal of the Admiralty.

RESOLVED, to meet at Derby House on Wednesday morning about the Commission of Oyer and Terminer of the Admiralty to be shortly held.

JULY 18, 1677

[*Present* : Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Ormonde ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry. Navy Officers attending.]

AGREED, that the trial of the 3 French captains for their late affront to the Francis¹ be (as soon as may be) after the expiration of the 15 days which of course² must be allowed after the date of the warrant for the holding of the court and empanelling of the jury.

That the supplemental declaration for victuals for his Majesty's ships for the service of the current year be hastened.

A petition being exhibited to my Lords by Sir Richard Rooth, praying the allowance of rear-admiral's pay lately established in Council³ (upon the case of Sir Robert Robinson's) to all who shall appear to have had or hereafter shall have the command of 12 ships of war besides fireships though without a flag, Sir R. R. alleging that he had a greater number of ships of war under his command at his last going forth to the Straits ; RESOLVED, that he be directed to evidence the same to my Lords by a particular list of the said ships, and that he had at once the full command thereof according to the terms and meaning of the establishment.

Upon hearing the case of Edward Grange, cook of the Assistance, praying relief from my Lords in that he has been lately arrested without the knowledge and

¹ See 15th June.

² *I.e.*, in the ordinary course.

³ 19th May, 1675 ; see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 147.

leave of their Lordships, and in the opening thereof it appearing that his said arrest was occasioned by his very undue proceedings as constable of the parish of Barking¹ in Tower Street in beating and otherwise abusing several persons appertaining to his Majesty's Office of Ordnance, and that neither at that time nor at any other before the said arrest he did make known his being an officer of his Majesty's navy; RESOLVED, that forasmuch as his Majesty's service will receive no present inconvenience by the said Edward Grange's remaining under the said arrest, and that he did not timely discover his relation to the navy, he be left to answer at law for his said misbehaviour as constable, And that for the future it be taken as a standing rule for preventing the like trouble, both to the Lords and private persons who are frequently found misled to the arresting his Majesty's officers by the said officers' designed concealing their being such in order to the giving trouble to the said persons from this Board, That no person shall receive any privilege or protection from this Board in case of arrest who shall not appear to have timely declared his relation, by office or otherwise, to his Majesty's navy to the party arresting or designing to arrest him, before or (in case of surprise) at the very time of his being arrested, and to have offered proof of his said relation.

A letter being read from Colonel Finch, praying licence for a vessel belonging to one Mr. Walsh, searcher of the port of Sandwich, for the carrying of his Majesty's jack, and that she may be employed under the same for preventing the transportation of wool and other prohibited commodities; RESOLVED, that the same was in no wise fit to be granted.

JULY 21, 1677

[*Present*: The King; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson; [Mr. Speaker]. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Speaker moves that the sum of money designed to be sent along to Sir John N[arbrough] to the Straits,

¹ Allhallows, Barking.

being for short allowance and contingenc[i]es, being not great, his Majesty may not be put to the charge of a deputy-treasurer but that the same may be imprested to Sir John Narbrough, as in like case hath heretofore been ; And the same is agreed to.

Mr. Speaker in like manner taking notice that the suspension heretofore laid upon William Cleggett, purser of the Royal James,¹ for some evil practice discovered of his altering his ship's book after payment, to the prejudice of his Majesty, did he remain without anything done by the said Cleggett or that can be offered in his justification, and therefore moving that the said Cleggett may be entirely put out of the said employment ; The same was agreed to, Mr. Speaker afterwards recommending it apart to Mr. Pepys that if upon inquiry (which Mr. P. was desired to make) nothing of blame shall be found to stick upon Mr. Greengam, formerly clerk to my Lord Brouncker,² but by him dismissed upon some complaint brought in against him to the Navy Board, his Majesty might be moved in behalf of the said Greengam that he might succeed the said Cleggett, Mr. Speaker declaring his having received some assistance from the said Greengam in the discovery of the very abuse for which Cleggett is to be discharged. Which enquiry Mr. Pepys did make by a letter to the Navy Board to that purpose, bearing date the 25th of July, '77, the same matter being also solicited on behalf of Mr. Greengam by [*blank*], a member of Parliament.

Sir Samuel Morland's petition about his disbursements for new inventions at the King's order, referred to the Officers of the Navy.

The Officers of the Navy are directed to consider and report to my Lords in writing their opinion touching the best way of disposing of the hull of the Old James, now in dock at Woolwich, whether by repairing her there where she is, laying her up elsewhere, or breaking her up.

¹ See p. 254 above.

² Comptroller of the treasurer's accounts.

The Duke of Ormonde to examine Sir Nicholas Armourer's petition¹ for damages, as it will not be for his Majesty's service to proceed upon the contract.

Upon sight of his Majesty's letters patents to the alum-farmers, and the particular profits for exempting their vessels and men from being imprested, the benefit of the said clause the said farmers do now demand, in regard of the press now abroad for the ships going forth; RESOLVED, that protections be accordingly granted them, not in general but to each vessel distinctly, expressing in each their distinct number of men.

His Majesty is pleased to confirm the late determination of the Lords² for denying the licence of wearing his Majesty's jack to Colonel Finch's wool-vessel.

A general petition being read from the officers of his Majesty's yard at Portsmouth, whose wages are inferior to the wages of the like officers in other yards, wherein they pray that their work being equal they may not long remain; ORDERED, that the examining the original reason of that difference of wages, and the reporting what may be fit to be now done by his Majesty therein for continuing or removing the same, be referred to the Officers of the Navy.

A petition being read of 15 men taken on board the Yarmouth, Captain Trevanion commander, when he was lately in the Straits, praying that they may be allowed wages as well as victuals, whereas it is said they were borne on board only as passengers; RESOLVED, that the said petition be referred to the examination of the Officers of the Navy.

RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy do give in a weekly account of their proceedings upon the repair of the old and building the new ships, and that the same be kept by the Secretary of the Admiralty, in order to his preparing (when it shall be required) a perfect account in order of time of the progress that has been made in each of the said works.

It was this day recommended by discourse with the Officers of the Navy, that the first 15 of the 30 new ships

¹ See 9th June.

² See 18th July.

may be hastened, not only in their hulls but in their furniture, especially in the providing whatever relating thereto is to be fetched from abroad. That so, if occasion should require them, they may be in condition of doing service without staying for the completing the whole number of 30.

His Majesty is pleased to confirm (upon debate first had thereon) the resolutions of the Lords at their last meeting for denying protection against arrests to such officers of the navy as shall not timely declare their said relations to the navy: *vide* the said resolution the 18th instant.

His Majesty is pleased to direct that the small sloop building by Lawrence, son of Lawrence the shipwright's assistant at Chatham, be called the Experiment¹; and to declare that Cotton,² recommended thereto by Sir John Narbrough, shall have the command of her.

JULY 26, 1677

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Ormonde; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Sir Robert Robinson's purpose of visiting Algiers and Oran approved.

His Majesty is pleased to refer to the Officers of the Navy the appointment of the number of hands to the Experiment sloop.

ORDERED, that the sloops designed to follow Sir John Narbrough to the Straits shall not proceed without the fireships which are designed thither also.

JULY 28, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

RESOLVED, that the Master of the Ordnance be directed to consider of a supply of gunner's stores to be sent Sir John Narbrough for the ships abroad.

¹ Built at Greenwich by Joseph Lawrence, 1677.

² Captain Andrew Cotton; this was his first command.

Several letters read, and particularly one from Sir John Berry, giving an account of the state of affairs with him at Virginia.

AGREED, at the request of Mr. Pett, master-shipwright of his Majesty's yard at Chatham, that Augustine Robinson, carpenter of the *Henry*, a very able shipwright, may be allowed to execute his said office by a deputy while he be employed in his Majesty's service as foreman of one of the new ships designed to be built there, Mr. Pett shewing that two of his foremen have of late left him to set up for themselves in private yards.

The Experiment sloop to be fitted for sea.

Mr. Pepys's draught for the Council touching the privy seals for money for the 30 ships ¹ approved by the King and Lords with one alteration.

Discourse being had of the scantlings of timber to be observed in the building of those ships, which Sir Anthony Deane declared, both for himself and Sir John Tippetts, his Majesty might suffer in if not made large enough, while others less knowing, when the charge of a ship comes to be seen, may censure as too large; It was ORDERED, that for the better ascertaining and justifying the scantlings of the said ships and the charge that shall attend the same, the Officers of the Navy, with the advice of others his Majesty's master-shipwrights (besides those of their ² own number) do cause a table to be drawn and presented to my Lords of the several scantlings fit to be established for a ship of each of the rates ordered to be built by the Parliament, and calculated according to his Majesty's dimensions, To be confirmed by this Board and enjoined for practice as well upon the ships to be built by contract as what shall be built in his Majesty's own yards.

RESOLVED, that it be referred to the Officers of the Navy to propose what may be a fit ship for the transporting the Earl of Carlisle to Jamaica ³; That his Majesty will not know the charge of any vessel to be sent as a tender upon the man-of-war, and that for the stores

¹ See 14th July.

² MS. 'his.'

³ Charles Howard, first Earl of Carlisle, was about to be appointed governor of Jamaica; see also p. 457 *n.* above.

designed thither from the Office of the Ordnance the Officers of the said Office shall hire a vessel at the charge of their own Office.

A further supply¹ of old canvas ORDERED, according to Mr. May's desire, to the bird-cage in St. James his Park.

Mr. Pett,² the builder at Chatham, doth labour to have liberty, out of the timber which shall be provided for the building of the rest of the new ships there, to lay by what pieces he shall find proper for the building of the 1st-rate ships.

Mrs. Owen, the widow of one of the clerks of the control, to have her husband's wages for the whole of the quarter in the middle of which he died.

Zachariah Ewells to be admitted to the benefit of a superannuated officer.

Upon a petition of Captain Crow, who is condemned to 6³ months' imprisonment, besides his being incapacitated of any future employment, for his late endangering his Majesty's ship the Diamond in his piloting her into the Downs, that he may be excused his said imprisonment; ORDERED by his Majesty, that in regard of the said Crow's being to be reputed a person subject to fits approaching to that of distraction, 3 months only of his imprisonment be exacted from him, and that the remainder be remitted him.

His Majesty being moved in a request made by Sir John Holmes, that either the Deal yacht as formerly or some other small vessel might be allowed for the transporting of letters and other services in the Downs, His Majesty refers the determination of anything therein to his discoursing with Sir John Holmes about it himself when he shall come into the Downs, which his Majesty designs very suddenly.

Mrs. Rugelly, mother of a land-corporal slain in the last war, referred to the Paymaster of the Army for payment of money due to her on account of her son.

¹ See 23rd June.

² Afterwards Sir Phineas Pett; he was knighted in 1680.

³ MS. '8,' altered to 3—evidently a mistaken correction: see p. 482 above.

The truth of Widow Andrews's petition touching the death of her husband on shore from wounds received at sea, referred to Mr. Pearse, the Chirurgeon-General of the Fleet.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 1, 1677

Memorandum about the Privy Seal for the 30 ships

Tuesday July 24.

To-morrow being St. James's Day, a Council was this day held, being the last before the intended adjournment to October, when Mr. Pepys was sent for to the Council Table by my Lord Treasurer, where (as his Lordship had lately desired) Mr. Pepys presented him with a double estimate, in order to one privy seal to be passed for the sum ¹ the said ships would arise to by the Parliament's measures, and another for what the excess of his Majesty's dimensions would amount unto. But my Lord proposed that it might be done by splitting the ships into halves—the first fifteen now going in hand with in one privy seal, the latter fifteen by another, taking the ordnance in, by the estimate of the Office put unto Mr. Pepys's hands by my Lord Treasurer, and drawing the whole by the King's dimensions; Directing Mr. Pepys forthwith to prepare a memorial for his Lordship for his proposing it to the Board, to be passed in lieu of the one privy seal ordered upon the navy estimate the 6th instant. According to which Mr. Pepys upon the place drew one as he could to his Lordship's sense, which his Lordship took, approved, presented to the Board, and had it ordered that that should be the method thereof, referring to Mr. Pepys the drawing of it into an Order.

Which Mr. Pepys did against Saturday 28th,² when, after shewing to my Lord Treasurer and he approving it, it was shewn and read to the King and Lords of the Admiralty (Navy Officers attending) at the Robes (Lord Treasurer present) and approved, with this only alteration, that whereas Mr. Pepys had proposed the 15 ships to be two 2nds and 13 3rd-rates, Sir A[nthony] Deane offered

¹ MS. 'same.'

² See minute of that date (p. 481 above).

that the launch preparing at Harwich for a 3rd might be made capable of a 2nd-rate, which being referred to the Navy Officers to advise upon (if practicable, and, if so, resolved to be done), it was RESOLVED, that the first privy seal should run for 3 2nds and 12 3rd-rates, and with that alteration to be delivered to the Clerk of the Council.

Which was accordingly prepared against Wednesday, August 1st, when a special Council was called upon occasion of Sir Nicholas Hau[gh]ton's stopping the passage of timber, etc., down the river Wye; where Mr. Pepys shewing his draught first to the Master of the Ordnance alone, he proposed that in lieu of one privy seal for each 15 ships including [the] N[avy] O[fficers'] and Officers of the Ordnance's proposition, each Office should have its proper privy seal, which Mr. Pepys afterwards at the Council Table observing to my Lord Treasurer, and shewing him the draught of the warrant so altered for a privy seal for each Office, his Lordship approved of it, and by his order Mr. Pepys put it into the hands of Sir John Nicholas,¹ together with the original estimate of the Office of the Ordnance, for his preparing and issuing the Board's warrant accordingly.

AUGUST 4, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Sir Richard Rooth allowed rear-admiral's pay.²

Notice given to the Board that on Monday next the Session of the Admiralty should be held for the trial of the French captains formerly mentioned,² where, his Majesty advising it, my Lord Chancellor undertook to be present.

At the request of Sir John Mathews³ of Cadiz, a

¹ John, the eldest son of Sir Edward Nicholas, formerly secretary of state, had been knighted in 1661. He was clerk of the council.

² See 18th July.

³ Probably John Mathews, a London merchant, who had been knighted 17th April 1677.

pass was granted for the bringing an unfree ship of his out of the Straits home for England.

Sir Denis Gauden¹ giving notice by letter that the supply of fresh water at Portsmouth for the brewing² of beer for his Majesty's fleet would be in danger of being lost, by reason of some works now in doing for the fortifying of that place, unless that timely caution were taken therein; ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do (with Sir Samuel Morland³) attend his Majesty at Portsmouth (whither he is now going) in order to a conference to be had with Colonel Legge⁴ and Sir John Kempthorne⁵ upon the place touching that matter.

An account being read from Captain Gardiner touching his late service to his Majesty in the suppressing the rebellion at Virginia, for which service he prays some reward from his Majesty, and proposed his having a medal from the navy in recompense for the same; It was observed that the whole substance of his service relating to and being performed upon the shore (though some small circumstance happened upon the water), it might be of ill precedent to introduce the giving of naval medals for any services that are not truly naval; And thereupon it was RESOLVED, that Captain Gardiner's service did truly deserve a reward equal in value with that of a medal, to be allowed him in money, and that Mr. Secretary Williamson do take an opportunity of moving my Lord Treasurer therein from his Majesty that an allowance may be made to Captain Gardiner accordingly.

The Phoenix being returned from Jamaica, it was taken into consideration again that that island remains at this time without any man-of-war to attend it, and that therefore the dispatching away of my Lord Carlisle ought to be brought to some certainty, as being that upon which the sending away of another frigate seems to depend. Which his Majesty was pleased to refer to his

¹ One of the victuallers of the navy.

² MS. 'breeming'

³ See p. 234 *n.* above.

⁴ Lieutenant-governor of Portsmouth; see *D. N. B.*, xxxii. 408.

⁵ Resident commissioner of the navy at Portsmouth; *D. N. B.*, xxx. 397.

coming from Portsmouth, when he will again take it into consideration.

Mr. Pepys declaring by discourse the opinion of Trinity House touching the matter about which the Consul of Genoa, by a late letter to Mr. Secretary Coventry, desires satisfaction, relating to the masters of merchantmen being bound or not bound to the payment of seamen's wages or any part thereof, abroad, etc., in order to the keeping the peace between the said masters and men there; It was ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do cause the said opinion of the Trinity House to be put in writing and signed under the necessary hands of the said Corporation, to be sent from hence by Mr. Secretary Coventry to the said Consul for his guidance therein.

An Order of Council bearing date 24th July being at length drawn according to the late alterations for the privy seals for the building the 30 ships and this day brought to this Board (*vide* 1st instant), the same was read, debated, and ORDERED to be put into execution.

A letter of Sir John Berry's from Virginia read, giving an account of affairs there.

A petition of Mary Ketchman, nurse to the Duke of Richmond,¹ being read, wherein she solicits for the payment of a parcel of old tickets, is denied, and she left to be paid in course.

The King's provisions for his voyage to Portsmouth to be put on board one of the yachts.

Mr. Pepys presented to the Board a list of the King of Spain's ships belonging to Ostend sent him from Mr. Puckle; ORDERED, that the same be communicated to the commander-in-chief in the Downs for the guidance of the King's commanders in their pursuit after the privateers of that place.

A petition being read from Sir Denis Gauden, giving an account of his being arrested and now in durance at the suit of one FitzMorris, without the leave or knowledge of the Lords and notwithstanding his having produced their Lordships' certificate of his present relation to his Majesty's service in the navy; ORDERED, that the

¹ Born 29th July, 1672; see *D. N. B.*, xxxiii. 41.

said FitzMorris be laid by the heels notwithstanding the said FitzMorris's application this day to the Board in defence of his said proceedings.

Report of the Officers of the Navy touching Sir Richard Rooth's not complying with the Admiral's Instructions read, and he directed to justify himself touching the same.

AUGUST 25, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

A letter was read from Sir John Berry at Plymouth signifying his arrival there with his Majesty's ship Bristol, and his having brought away with him from Virginia the Dartmouth and Rose also, leaving the land-soldiers in expectation of the provisions sent for the bringing them away; with which proceedings of Sir John Berry's, upon consideration had of his inducements thereto expressed in the said letter, his Majesty and my Lords were pleased not only to allow but commend, though not justified by his order by which he was directed to stay at Virginia till he received orders for his so doing, which (though sent) were not arrived at the time of his departure thence.

Mr. Secretary Coventry produces a letter from Consul Martin at Algier, signifying that Government's satisfaction in what his Majesty desires about laying aside the present form of passes by which they are limited to a year, and having the passes run without limitation; which being read, it was ORDERED, that a form be prepared for the passes hereafter to run in accordingly.

ORDERED, That the Bristol and Rose be paid off but that the Dartmouth, as being a useful ship, be kept abroad for the service of the Channel, in case after survey she be in a condition for it.

The Mermaid and Falcon, 'being both useful ships,' are to be kept abroad.

The Norwich to be paid off.

ORDERED, that the Kingfisher be called in to Sheerness or Chatham to be fitted by Mr. Pett for a voyage to the

Straits to enforce Sir John Narbrough; and that she be sheathed with lead about 7 strakes¹ on² each side.

A letter read from Captain Wyborne of the Pearl touching a complaint from the Duke of Tuscany of an affront offered by some of his company to the Master of the Bollo³ of Livorne.

Mr. Secretary Coventry to be the King's remembrancer touching Captain Gardiner.⁴

A petition being read from Sir Denis Gauden, giving an account of his continuance under his arrest at the suit of Mr. FitzMorris⁴; ORDERED, that it be presented to the Council Table this afternoon.

His Majesty is pleased to signify his command for recalling the late orders for sending ships to lay before Ostend.

ORDERED also, that the vessels of the two French captains who were tried at the late Session of the Admiralty⁴ be forthwith discharged, and delivered them back without any embezzlements; Mr. Secretary Coventry also taking notice to his Majesty that an order was issued for the remitting the £400 fines to him of the said captains, who was fined at the said Sessions in that sum for their contempt to his Majesty's flag.

ORDERED also, that no further pursuit be made after the third, these two having given satisfaction to his Majesty for the said journey.

A report being read from the Officers of the Navy in reference to and in favour of the workmen at Portsmouth, that their allowance of wages may be equal to the like workmen in other yards,⁵ the same was, upon the considerations by them mentioned, approved and ORDERED.

Leave given to Sir Richard Beach⁶ to come up to town 'upon some private occasions.'

Sir Richard Rooth giving in his answer, is excused his failures.⁴

¹ MS. 'streaks.'

² MS. 'one.'

³ MS. 'Bolle.' *Bollo* is a seal, and the reference is probably to the keeper of the seal of some office connected with shipping.

⁴ See 4th August.

⁵ See p. 479 above.

⁶ Resident commissioner of the navy at Chatham.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Mr. Secretary Coventry presenting a particular of charges demanded by the Marshal of the Admiralty from Monsieur Deville, the French captain that was acquitted at the late Sessions of the Admiralty; ORDERED, that forasmuch as he was acquitted, he should be freed from all charges, and that the reasonable demands of the said Marshal of the Admiralty shall be suffered by his Majesty.

An Order from the Council Table being read, for recalling the former Order by which ships were sent to lie before Ostend,¹ upon intimation of the people, of that place being become more respectful towards his Majesty, and a letter being at the same time read from Mr. Puckle, giving advice of the contrary behaviour of the said people, and that the lying of the said ships before Ostend did conduce very much to the keeping the said people in awe; It was RESOLVED, that in pursuance of the said Order in Council a stop should be put to the lying of any more ships before the place, but that nevertheless our ships cruising in the Channel should be instructed still to interrupt and bring in their privateers as formerly.

Application having been this day made from the town of Sandwich, that some persons lately brought in prisoners thither upon their being apprehended in stealing forth of wool,² and now lying prisoners there, to the trouble and charge of the town, might be removed from thence to the county gaol,³ My Lord Chancellor was pleased to declare their request very regular, and RESOLVED, that the same might be done by my Lord Chief Justice, or any Justice of the King's Bench, and that notice should be given thereof to Mr. Secretary Williamson's office, from whence the direction of my Lords herein was demanded upon a letter from the place to Mr. Secretary Williamson (now in the country) on that behalf.

¹ See 25th August.

² On the smuggling of wool, at Sandwich and elsewhere, see *Cal. S.P. Dom.*, 1664, March 27th, and 1669, October 28th. Its export was forbidden by 12 Car. II. c. 32, and 14 Car. II. c. 18.

³ MS. 'goale.'

An account read of Captain Sanderson's, commander of the Portsmouth yacht, of several respects paid by ships of foreign princes to his Majesty's flag borne by the said yacht in her late voyage to the Sound and Gottenburg, and particularly the satisfaction given him in writing by the Governor of Stralsund ¹ for an indignity offered thereto by a ship belonging to the King of Sweden.

Widow Andrews allowed the King's bounty.²

Mr. Pepys taking notice that by the coming away of the Phoenix, my Lord Vaughan remains at Jamaica without any frigate to attend the service of the said island, in order to his Majesty's declaring his pleasure touching the sending of another frigate in her room, which by the discourse arising thereon was agreed to depend upon the early or later departure of the Earl of Carlisle, the Governor-elect of that place; It was committed to Mr. Secretary Coventry to quicken my Lord Carlisle by letter in his preparations for his voyage.

A letter of Sir William Poole's from Newfoundland read, giving an account of the state of our fishing affairs there.

A report from the Officers of the Navy being read, allowing the truth of Sir Samuel Morland's disbursements upon several naval inventions referred to their examination ³; ORDERED, that Sir Samuel Morland be reimbursed the same, with present payment, by the Officers of the Navy, and they directed to prosecute the perfect judgment of his said inventions by practice.

A petition being read from Mrs. Lassells, widow of Captain Lassells, commander of the Guarland, lately deceased, shewing her great wants, and it appearing evidently to his Majesty and my Lords that the said Captain Lassells died of a disease contracted by his late long winter voyage to Gottenburg, and his Majesty and my Lords being pleased to take into consideration the long and faithful services and frugal living of the said Captain Lassells, together with his long and chargeable sickness and the distressed condition of his poor widow and family; RESOLVED, that his Majesty would out of

¹ MS. 'Strallsound.'

² See 28th July.

³ See 21st July.

his own Royal bounty grant to the said widow the sum of £100 towards the support of herself and family, and that the same be moved in her behalf when next my Lord Treasurer shall be present.

Lawrence, son of Mr. Lawrence, assistant to the master-shipwright at Chatham, being encouraged by his having lately built the *Experiment* sloop for his Majesty, petitioneth for his being a constituted shipwright's assistant at Woolwich; but was answered that, upon his Majesty's late appointment of a master-shipwright there, there had never to that time been more than an assistant for that particular yard to the master-builder at Deptford. It was RESOLVED (as one condition of the advancement of the then assistant to be master-builder) [that] no assistant should be allowed to the said builder.

Notice being given to the Board that the money about which the present contest is between Sir Denis Gauden and Mr. FitzMorris,¹ and Sir D. G. being now a prisoner thereupon, does not belong either to the one or to the other, but to his Majesty, The consideration thereof is respited till the whole of the said matter shall be brought with evidence before his Majesty, the great seal for Sir D. Gauden's pardon of the contempt for which he is now in durance (as is heretofore mentioned) being nevertheless to go on.

The Officers of the Navy to report the present condition of the *Dover dogger*, the King being inclined to gratify Butts the fisherman in his desire that it should be given to him 'in recompense for his frequent attendancies upon his Majesty, and services done him therein at his Majesty's passings down the River, and particularly at his visiting Burnham Water.'

A petition being read of one Bell, a groom of his Majesty's, praying that his son might be admitted as a volunteer, being of the proper age for it and desirous of being bred to the sea; ANSWERED, that this his Majesty's allowance of volunteers was originally designed for the encouragement of young sons of noblemen, and gentlemen of better quality, to betake themselves to the sea, which would be wholly defeated if they should let in the children

¹ See 25th August.

of ¹ persons of ordinary sort to have the benefit thereof, and that therefore Mr. Bell could not be gratified in this his desire.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy, bearing date the 31st of August, read and agreed to, and ORDERED to be put in execution in reference to the two former parts of it :—about the table of scantlings of timber ² to be observed by the builders of the 30 ships, whether in the King's yards or by contract, of each of the 3 rates designed respectively, As also touching the building of a 2nd-rate at Harwich, The third particular, relating to the said Officers' desire of direction about the providing³ of stores for the second 15 of the 30 ships, being referred to my Lord Treasurer's next presence at this Board.

Captain Cotton, who was lately recommended to the command of the Experiment sloop by Sir John Narbrough, finding himself a sufferer by his long attendance for so short a command, she being not above 6 weeks or 2 months in pay, and praying some recompense therefor from his Majesty ; ORDERED, that he should have a present berth in some future employment as a midshipman.⁴

Mr. Hunter allowed satisfaction for a ship of his hired by the King as a fireship.

A petition of Mr. Ruffhead, anchorsmith at Chatham, read and granted, for his having some old cast iron of his Majesty's (laid by for sale in that yard) delivered to him in part payment of what is due to him from his Majesty upon bills. *Memorandum*, It is to be limited to the old iron only.

A general petition read from the cooks of his Majesty's navy, praying for an allowance of servants in harbour, for the enabling them to take and maintain apprentices, or that they might have some increase to their wages ; the last part denied, the former is found contrary to

¹ MS. 'and.'

² See 28th July.

³ MS. 'proceeding.'

⁴ So in the margin : the text reads 'boatswain.' Ex-commanders were often appointed midshipmen extraordinary ; see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 215. On 16th January, 1677-8, Captain Cotton was appointed to command the Hound sloop.

practice, and the arguments about their taking apprentices judged of no weight, there being no need of any provision to be made for breeding up of apprentices for the convoy of the navy.

A 'round sum of money, near to and not under the value of master's pay of a 5th-rate' allowed to John Hayden for acting as master when he went as mate with Captain Preistman in the *Lark* in her last voyage to the Straits.

But Mr. Pepys taking occasion from hence to remind his Majesty and my Lords of the resolution some time since,¹ that all commanders of 6th-rates, as being masters as well as commanders, should undergo the examination of Trinity House as all masters are, and shewing that, for the rendering the said resolution useful to the end it was designed, it would be needful for his Majesty to extend the same even to such as have been commanders of greater ships, where masters are allowed them, who² nevertheless do take it as an indignity to be subject to an examination by the Trinity House when they come to serve the King as commanders of smaller ships, not considering that in these they are accountable for the work and charge of a master as well as commander; RESOLVED, that whosoever shall hereafter pretend to the command of a 6th-rate, though he hath heretofore commanded in ships of bigger rates, shall not be judged capable of a commission of commander and master of a 6th-rate until he shall have undergone the examination of Trinity House, and produce a certificate from the said House of his ability to perform the duty of master in his Majesty's said ships as the master[s] of his Majesty's ships in all other cases ordinarily do.

Memorandum also, that his Royal Highness, being present at this debate, was not only pleased to concur with and promote this resolution, but to propose it to his Majesty and my Lords, as a matter of great importance to his Majesty's service towards the making of able captains, that a thorough security be had in the proficiencies and qualifications of every person pretending to be a lieutenant, before he be admitted thereto; The

¹ See 14th November 1674 (pp. 86-7 above).

² MS. 'when.'

great number and early settings out of young gentlemen by the late establishment¹ to sea, and the daily instances met with of their early pretensions to lieutenancies, while there is no examination provided for the making their abilities understood, rendering it of absolute necessity that some method should be set for the Trinity House, Officers of the Navy, or both, with their abilities and fitnesses certified for before they be thought qualified for lieutenants. To which the Secretary of the Admiralty adding the consideration of having the duties and work of a lieutenant ascertained in writing, and given lieutenants as instructions (which has never hitherto been) and without the ascertaining of which the capacity or incapacity of a person to perform the place of lieutenant cannot be rightly judged; the whole was upon debate fully approved of, and referred to the Secretary of the Admiralty to prepare and present to the Board a draught of instructions, to contain the duties and charge of a lieutenant, and a method of examination of a person's fitness for that employment, to be undergone before his admission thereto.²

SEPTEMBER 8, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty taking into his consideration the case of Captain Booth, commander of the *Falcon*, who with six men of his ship's company besides himself are committed to gaol by the magistrates of Yarmouth for a late riot by them committed there at midnight in rescuing a person out of the hands of justice, in which riot a watchman happens to be killed, by the hand (as it is sworn) of Captain Booth himself, the several depositions sent up by the Bailiffs of that place, together with a letter of Captain Booth in defence of himself, were read, and the matter found so unfit for his Majesty to patronise

¹ Probably the establishment of 4th May, 1676; see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 214.

² The result was an establishment of 18th December, 1677; see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 203.

as that he was pleased, with the advice of my Lords, to declare and direct Mr. Secretary Coventry to make known from him to the town, That he will in no ways interrupt the proceedings of justice in reference to the said malefactor, nor to the execution of any sentence of death that shall by law be pronounced against him,¹ saving that for so much as concerns the persons that were in the riot with Captain Booth and under his command as their captain, he would have their execution respited until the distinct circumstances of each of their crimes be reported to him.

The letter being read from the Consul of Algier to Mr. Secretary Coventry, signifying his having communicated to that Government his Majesty's desire of taking off the limitation of time lately set to the passes granted in pursuance of our Treaty with them, and that they may go² as formerly without any limitation, To which desires of his Majesty's he writes that the said Government yields to ; ORDERED, that the form of the passes now used be with all speed changed into the very form they heretofore ran in in the time of his Royal Highness in every respect, without any limitation to the time of unloading (as some did propose) or any other, and that from henceforward passes do run in the old terms accordingly.³

ORDERED also, at the desire of Sir Cyril Wyche⁴ by letter, that 20 more blank passes be sent to my Lord Lieutenant of Ireland for the use of his Majesty's subjects there; calling for an account of the passes last sent,⁵ and advising that from henceforward the rules lately established for the granting of passes in Ireland may be observed.

Mention being made by Mr. Secretary Coventry of the D[uke] of Tuscany's complaint, signified by Sir

¹ Charnock's notice of Captain Thomas Booth cautiously ends : ' He is said to have been hanged at Yarmouth on account of a commotion or riot he excited there ; but the particular circumstances attending it are not known ' (*Biogr. Nav.*, i. 387) ; but see minute of 16th September.

² MS. ' give.'

³ *Margin* : ' Passes run as formerly, without any limitation of time otherwise than the voyage.'

⁴ MS. ' Sir Syrrill Winch ' ; but see p. 463 *n.* above.

⁵ See p. 463 above.

Charles Berkeley,¹ of the affront done to his Master of the Bollo² at Livorne by some of the company of the Pearl, the late letter from Captain Wyborne,³ commander of the said ship, was again read, speaking in general of the said matter as of a thing of a small moment, and the said letter ordered to be shewn by Mr. Pepys to Sir Charles Berkeley⁴ in case he desired it, and offer made of what further information he shall desire to have exacted from Captain Wyborne concerning it.

His Majesty being pleased to take into his gracious consideration the long imprisonment which Wyard and Davis have now undergone in the Marshalsea, upon the score of the former's abusing his master at sea, and the other's taking a commission, (being the King's subject) from a foreign prince to command a privateer, for which they were severally fined at Session of the Admiralty, and his Majesty also considering the inability they appeared to be under of ever satisfying the said fines, was pleased to order that the said fine should be remitted, and they discharged without being put to the expense of a great seal for their pardon, my Lord Chancellor advising that the same might be done with sufficient security to the poor men, forasmuch as the King only hath right to the said fines.

ORDERED by his Majesty, that the Deal yacht be recalled from Portsmouth to be employed in the Downs as formerly.

His Majesty informed that the great seal is passed for pardoning Sir Denis Gauden's act of contempt.⁵ White, the bailiff, imprisoned by order of the Council, to be set at liberty on paying his fees.

A petition being this day presented to his Majesty by Major Beckford and read, shewing his *quietus est* out of the Exchequer for the matters upon which he has been so long prosecuted there by Jones and his fellow-informers, And further shewing, that being called upon by the City

¹ MS. 'Barkely.' Sir Charles Berkeley, afterwards Earl of Berkeley, was gentleman usher of the bedchamber to Cosmo III., Grand Duke of Tuscany.

² MS. 'Boreo' (?). See note on p. 488 above.

³ See 25th August.

⁴ MS. 'Berkly.'

⁵ See 25th August and 1st September.

of London to serve as Sheriff for the year ensuing, his readiness to go through the charge thereof in case his Majesty shall deem it for his service, and enable him thereto by assisting him to the present supply of the money due to him from his Majesty as late slopseller of the navy and which has been collected from the seamen ; His Majesty and my Lords were pleased to reflect upon the usefulness of the said Major's service in that office, as also the chargeable prosecution he had gone through and acquitted himself of upon the account, before mentioned, and was pleased (upon the petitioner's being called in) to signify his pleasure to him that he should hold the said office, and for his encouragement thereto was pleased to promise him his favour in the supplying him with his said money, and some proportionable part thereof forthwith, for the enabling him to go through the expense thereof, Directing Mr. Pepys to put his Majesty in mind of his said promise when next my Lord Treasurer should be present. And it was also RESOLVED, upon consideration of the said *quietus* granted him after so long a prosecution by Jones, that he should be restored to the exercise of his place as slopseller as formerly, upon terms to be adjusted with him by the Officers of the Navy in anything that is defective on behalf of his Majesty in that affair.

Notice being taken by his Majesty of some information he had received of the backwardness of the new works at Chatham, compared with other yards, It was shewn by the Officers of the Navy that the same did arise, not from any want of endeavours after, but from their incapacities to find, competent supplies of timber out of that country, to serve that one yard, and particularly keel-pieces. However, his Majesty was pleased to make use of the occasion to recommend to them their making use of all means for supplying from elsewhere what the neighbouring country would not furnish them with for this service.

The Officers of the Navy giving an account in writing of the information they have received of the prejudice his Majesty's service in the building the new ships is likely to suffer in its dispatch, through some difficulty of passage met with in the bringing of timber down the river

of Guildford, My Lord Chancellor was pleased to take notice of what has already passed the Council Table upon that matter, and it was RESOLVED, that the same should be considered there again at their next meeting.

A petition being communicated to my Lords from the master attendant at Deptford, that some one person might be ordered to be borne upon the Experiment sloop in Deptford wet dock ; the consideration of the expediency of the said proposal was referred to the Officers of the Navy.

A report of the said Officers being read, giving their opinion for the rebuilding the hull of the Old James into a 3rd-rate (upon a 2nd), the same was agreed to.

An Order of Council, bearing date 24th November 1671, being read, directed to his Royal Highness when Lord Admiral, in behalf of Mrs. Stephens, widow of Captain Stephens, commander of the Chestnut pink, who died in her in the East Indies, which Order of Council having lain unrepresented all this while in the hands of Sir John Berkenhead,¹ as being mislaid and now recovered ; RESOLVED, that for the ease of the poor widow, the said Order be now proceeded in by my Lords as it should have been by his Royal Highness, had it been presented timely to him.

SEPTEMBER 16, 1677

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present* : The King ; Lord Chancellor ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys acquainting them with an account he had lately received from Captain Carverth, commander of the Francis, of a rencounter lately happening between him and an Ostender, wherein several shot were exchanged on both sides, to the great offence of his Majesty ; His Majesty was pleased to own his being satisfied in so much as at present appears of Captain Carverth's behaviour in the said rencounter, and to give order that the said Ostender should be looked out for by his ships cruising in the Channel and brought in if discovered.

¹ See *D. N. B.*, v. 81 ; he was one of the masters of requests.

His Majesty was also pleased, upon consideration of the quality of Captain Booth, now a prisoner condemned at Yarmouth for the murder of a watchman there, (as has been heretofore noted ¹) to determine, after advising therein with my Lord Chancellor, upon changing the doom of the said captain from being hanged to the being beheaded.²

SEPTEMBER, 22, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

A letter being read from Captain Carverth, of the Francis, giving an account of his late rencounter with an Ostender (mentioned at the last meeting), his Majesty and my Lords found that part of it unsatisfactory which related to his letting go the English prize which he had retaken from the said Ostender, and RESOLVED, that a more perfect answer should be required from him in that particular.

Mr. Parry, now going as envoy to Portugal, to supply the King's ships in that country with provisions and stores, when absolute necessity calls for it there.

RESOLVED, that the Anne yacht be sent (as soon as she can be refitted at Chatham) to be laid up at Portsmouth, there to be kept, at as little charge as may be, in a constant state of readiness for answering any occasion of service there for the safety of his Majesty's ships and garrison.

The criminality of Mr. Cleggett,³ purser of the Royal James, for which he has long lain under suspension, referred to the Officers of the Navy.

RESOLVED, upon a motion from the Officers of the Navy, that in case the Lark's works cannot be gone in

¹ See 8th September.

² The entry in Pepys's *Register of Sea-Officers* is 'hanged at Yarmouth for making a riot there' (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 327). See also note 1 on p. 495 above.

³ See 21st July.

hand with conveniently in one of his Majesty's docks, they do treat for her being repaired in a merchant's.

The King being pleased himself to report the condition of the Dartmouth as he found her upon his own view at his late going to Chatham, she being judged wholly unfit to be ventured to sea again without being brought into the dock, where her bottom may be come at and re-viewed; RESOLVED, that she be forthwith called in and paid off.

Several letters read; and amongst others from Sir Jonathan Atkins¹ and Captain Delavall² at the Barbadoes, and Sir William Poole³ giving an account of the affairs at Newfoundland.

RESOLVED, that the Merlin yacht at her return from Hamburg be paid off and laid up at Deptford.

My Lord Treasurer being by other occasions suddenly called away, no opportunity offered of having the matter determined the 16th instant in behalf of Major Beckford.

RESOLVED, that the work lately determined to be done upon the hull of the Old James shall be performed in the King's own yard, and not by contract in a merchant's yard as some have proposed.

ORDERED, that the Officers of the Navy be authorised and directed to adjust with and satisfy the owners for the house at Tangier employed in the keeping of the slaves belonging to his Majesty's late galley there.⁴

An account delivered in and read, from the Officers of the Navy, of the present state of their contracts for stores in the several yards for the building the new ships there, as the same stands at this day, and they directed to bring in as often as they conveniently can the number of the new ships from time to time in hand and the advance of their several works upon them.

A petition of Sir John Kirk's read and refused, for the having a small vessel of his now abroad, foreign-built and not made free, to have a Straits pass granted her.

¹ Governor of Barbados.

² Commander of the Constant Warwick.

³ Now commander of the Leopard.

⁴ *Margin*: 'Newell's petition determined.'

OCTOBER 2, 1677

[At Newmarket. *Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty with letters newly arrived of the 31st of August and 2nd September from Sir John Narbrough, signifying his being well arrived before Tangier with the ships he carried forth with him, but that he found Sir Robert Robinson and his ships several of them out of repair and all of them in want of stores and provisions sufficient to carry them with him to Algier, and the garrison wholly unable to supply them with any; His Majesty was pleased to conceive so great dissatisfaction with Sir D. Gauden for the same, upon the consideration of the pernicious consequence which these wants may be of to his Majesty's service in those seas at this particular juncture, As, with the advice of my Lords, to direct that a letter should be immediately sent to Mr. Secretary Williamson at Whitehall to direct the putting into the very next *Gazette* an invitation to all people to attend the Lords Commissioners for Tangier at the Robes at Whitehall on Tuesday 16th October, with their offers for the victualling his Majesty's said garrison by contract with the King.

Consideration being had of what Sir John Narbrough writes touching the necessity of sending home or to Livorne 3 or 4 ships which are not able to continue longer abroad in his Majesty's service without repair; **RESOLVED**, that Sir J. N. be directed to send home the said ships, and that for the supplying their places in the Straits the 4 ships mentioned in the margin¹ be fitted forth for the Straits with all speed.

DETERMINED also, that the *St. David* and *Nonsuch* be reserved for convoys to the herring-fishery.

Poverty of Mrs. Lately, widow of one of the masters attendant at Chatham, laid open to the King, who bestowed upon her £100 out of his privy purse, rejecting a proposal that something for her relief might be required 'from him that shall succeed her husband in the said employment.'

About removing Captain Perriman from Sheerness to be master attendant at Chatham: decision deferred.

¹ *Marginal*: Oxford, Hampshire, Assistance, Foresight.

RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy be directed to consider the present state of the victualling declaration, in order to the well supplying of Sir John Narbrough's fleet with provisions in the Straits, and to do the like with respect to the necessary supply of stores to him, And, lastly, to give their opinion (after full consideration had upon it) touching the reasonableness of Sir John Narbrough's proposition of sending his Majesty's ships from the station about the Straits' mouth rather to Plymouth or Portsmouth in England than to Livorne, as a matter both of better husbandry and greater dispatch.

Mr. Pepys communicating to his Majesty and my Lords the letter from the Officers of the Navy of 31st August formerly mentioned,¹ with particular reference to that part of it which respects their being enabled to proceed to the providing of stores and materials for the second 15 ships, All the money hitherto designed them for that service being limited in his application to the first 15; RESOLVED, that the same be moved at the first meeting of his Majesty at the Admiralty after his return to Whitehall, in order for the having a sum of money assigned to the Officers of the Navy for that use.

OCTOBER 20, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Master of the Ordnance²; Chancellor of the Exchequer³; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Sir Roger Strickland being newly returned from the Straits with his Majesty's ship the Dragon, and being designed by his Majesty to be speedily sent back again to Sir John Narbrough in the Oxford; RESOLVED, that it be referred to the Officers [of the] Navy to pay off the company of the Dragon so as, by leaving some part of the

¹ See p. 492 above.

² Sir Thomas Chicheley.

³ Sir John Ernle. Sir Thomas Chicheley and Sir John Ernle had been added to the board on the renewal of the admiralty commission by letters patent dated 26th September, 1677.

money unpaid,¹ to oblige them to go back again with Sir Roger Strickland in the Oxford.

Notice given their Lordships by Mr. Pepys, that, in compliance with a petition of the merchants trading to the Canaries, his Majesty had determined upon sending the Nonsuch to the said islands for the protecting the ships of the said merchants while they are in loading there from any injuries they may be otherwise exposed to, through the openness of the Roads, from the Turks ordinarily infesting those coasts.

A letter from Sir William Poole from Newfoundland, bearing date 28th August last, touching the state of that fishery, read, and notice taken thereof by the Lords in order to their taking the same in due time into consideration at the Committee of Plantations, when some persons may be present to manage the debate on behalf of the West Country gentlemen touching the matter so much controverted about the removing or not removing the planters thence.

RESOLVED, that it be referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider of one 4th and 5th-rate ship, or a small 4th in lieu of the 5th, for the carrying over of my Lord Carlisle² in one and stores in the other to Jamaica; the former to remain there and the latter to bring back my Lord Vaughan.²

A report being read from the Officers of the Navy touching the ill condition of the ironwork of the Lion discovered upon her being lately opened, and suggested to arise wholly from her lead sheathing,³ and it appearing upon debate (what has hitherto 'scaped being noted) that our forefathers have, upon occasion of applying lead to the outside of a ship, been found always to have paid⁴ over with stuff the heads of the bolts and other pieces of ironwork for the preventing that very evil of rusting which we now complain of; RESOLVED, that it be referred to the O[fficers of the] N[avy] to revive that practice, at least so far as to try whether the

¹ *Margin*: 'To pay off the Dragon to 6 months.'

² The Earl of Carlisle was succeeding Lord Vaughan as governor of Jamaica. See also p. 457 and note 1.

³ On experiments with lead sheathing see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, vol. ii. pp. xxxiv, 184 n., 401, and vol. iii. p. xlvii.

⁴ See note on p. 504 below.

paying ¹ of our ironwork with stuff as before will not effectually cure this evil, before we proceed to the condemning this otherwise advantageous method of lead sheathing.

A report from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] being read, complaining of several pressed shipwrights at Yarmouth who decline coming into his Majesty's service at Harwich, notwithstanding their being duly imprested thereto, with the like for others at Portsmouth, and shewing that the works at Harwich require and the town of Yarmouth can afford a further number of shipwrights for the same, giving a list of their names ; RESOLVED, that a Messenger be sent for the shipwrights at each place who being imprested do neglect the service, As also that a press warrant be issued to Mr. Betts, the master-builder at Harwich, enabling him to go to and press the said shipwrights at Yarmouth, and that he be furnished with a letter from my Lords to assist him in the execution of the said warrant, according to the King's command and their own late promise at the Council Table.

Another like report being read from the said Officers touching the value of the hull of the Dover dogger and her furniture, as she came in last from sea, as amounting to £98 15s. ; RESOLVED, that the said dogger and furniture be given to Thomas Butts ² of Barking, fisherman, in consideration of his long service and attendance upon his Majesty at sea (it being upon his petition that the said estimate was made), and that the same be, according to the constant practice of the navy, done by privy seal, but without charge to him of fees, etc., in consideration of his poverty.

His Majesty was pleased to recommend again to my Lord Treasurer the paying to the widow of Captain Lately his bounty of £100 not long since ³ granted by his Majesty out of his private purse for her relief.

An account read from the O[fficers of the] Navy of the ill condition of the Lark's bottom, lately returned from the Straits, by reason of the worm, for want of cleaning her. Wherein they do not affix upon the captain any blame therein, as not determining whether the same might not arise from the want of materials to

¹ To ' pay ' is to cover with pitch or tar.

² See 1st September.

³ See 2nd October.

clean her with, or their inability to come at her bottom. But upon this occasion Mr. Pepys took notice to his Majesty and my Lords of the advice he has lately received from Mr. Sheeres, wherein he seems to promise within the next year to prepare the place¹ so as to be able to careen any ship of the size Sir John Narbrough has now under his command there.

Another report being read from the Officers of the Navy, containing an account of the various naval stores contracted for and served in towards the building of the first 15 ships, As also of the particular advancement upon each of the said ships, and Mr. Pepys taking notice of a letter from Mr. Shish, master-builder at Deptford, shewing his being ready to go on to the preparing timber for another ship, as also of the latter part of the Officers of the Navy's letter of the 31st of August last concerning the expediency of their being enabled to provide materials timely towards the second 15 ships; RESOLVED, that another privy seal be issued for the providing of money for materials to be provided for the building of five more of the said 30 ships, consisting of 1 first and 4 second-rate ships, according to the method of the first privy seal for the first 15.

Notice taken by Mr. Pepys that Tuesday next is the day published by his Majesty for the receiving of proposals for the future victualling of the navy²; And RESOLVED, that the same be in the morning, and his Majesty declaring his purpose to be present. After which it was moved that, so soon as it should be determined who were the contractors for it, the annual declaration should be prepared and passed the Council Board.

Notice being also taken of the difficulty of getting seamen for our ships while so great a merchant trade is going; ORDERED, that it should be referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider of giving some help thereto by mixing a convenient proportion of land-soldiers with each hundred of seamen.

It being also taken into consideration how long time

¹ *Margin*: 'Mr. Shere will fit Tangier dock for careening 4th-rates in.' Mr. (afterwards Sir Henry) Sheeres was engineer in charge of the mole at Tangier; see *D. N. B.*, lii. 10.

² See 2nd October.

is spent in the sending of ships for provision to Livorne, and that time will be saved therein by the sending of them into England ; It was RESOLVED, as better than either, that the N[avy] O[fficers] should consider and report unto their Lordships their opinion touching the making use of Lisbon in Portugal, as a most proper place for the King's ships employed about the mouth of the Straits to resort to.

Major Beckford to be paid £3000 upon account of his dues to enable him to go on with his shrievalty,¹ but no more to be paid him till his accounts be adjusted ; ' Mr. Speaker giving it as his opinion, that of the whole pretended debt of his Majesty's to him of £10,000 there will not appear enough due to him from the King upon the making up of his accounts to satisfy the £3000 hereby advanced to him.'

Captain Crow to be discharged, the first 3 months of his 6 months' imprisonment having ' for some time been elapsed ' ; but ' so as to keep him for ever out of a capacity of having any more employment in any of his Majesty's ships.'

The bill of fees of Mr. Joynes, Marshal of the Admiralty, and Mr. Lowman, the Keeper, against Captain Deville,² ordered to be paid by the Treasurer of the Navy.

RESOLVED, that the Anne yacht, now discharged from her service here among the rest of the yachts (upon the building of the Mary yacht) be sent to Portsmouth, to be there kept with half a score persons borne upon [her] in constant pay and no more (officers and all included), to be ready at any time, by the putting more hands upon her out of our ordinary or garrisons, to attend upon any service appertaining to either.

The opinion of the Officers of the Navy read touching the state of the victualling declaration for the present year.

Relief given upon the petition of Mary Bale³ against a mistake in the book of the Royal James, wherein her husband stands entered under the name of Samuel Bale instead of James Bale, so as to disable the Officers of the Navy to make payment of any wages to her without the leave of the Lords, which upon their, and particularly Sir Richard Haddock's,⁴ declaring himself satisfied in the error, was granted them.

¹ See 8th September.

² See 1st September.

³ *Margin* : 'Widow Bale's petition granted.'

⁴ One of the commissioners of the navy.

OCTOBER 23, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer; Master of the Ordnance; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty and their Lordships being met this day in pursuance of an invitation published in the late *Gazette* to all persons to bring in their proposals for the victualling of his Majesty's navy, 4 distinct sets of proposers did attend; Besides one paper given in by the present victuallers declaring their readiness to continue upon the present terms but refusal to do it upon any lower, and therefore that they were ready to resign up their employment to any that would serve his Majesty upon lower, provided that if lower should not be offered they might not be dispossessed¹ by any upon the same terms at which they now serve, And another paper from Sir Robert Southwell praying his being continued, either as a separate contractor or jointly with those that shall be contractors, for so much as relates to Kinsale in Ireland.

Which two papers being laid aside to expect the issue of the new proposals, their Lordships proceeded to the considering their said proposals and comparing them, they being four, under the names following:—Mr. Heron, Mr. Breden, Mr. Hornby, and Mr. Golston. Wherein it was in the first place noted by my Lord Treasurer, that one only of the four had offered any advance of credit to his Majesty (namely, Mr. Heron, £60,000), which was the original occasion of his Majesty's purpose of changing the hands of the victualling, viz., that his Majesty might be served by such able ones as might give his service credit at any time to the value of such a sum without suffering the service to fail for want thereof. Upon which the proposers being all called in, they were made to understand by my Lord Treasurer that his Majesty expected such a covenant from whoever should pretend to the victualling of his navy, and that therefore before any answer could be given to the proposers his Majesty did desire theirs to that particular; Whereunto, after being

¹ MS. 'Disposed.'

withdrawn a little while and returned, Breden and Gols[t]on desired time to confer with their partners, Heron and Hornby declaring presently¹ their assent to the said covenant, But with some difficulty observed in Mr. Hornby's note, wherein he limited the said credit to so much only as his Majesty's service called for above the ordinary declaration, omitting the magazine provided by contract. Which Mr. Hornby readily rectified by adding with his own hand these words, *And what else is now required by the present contract*, which, after stepping out and returning with the concurrence of his partners to the addition of these words, he presented to the King, and was thereupon, by virtue of a comparison made before by my Lords of the four several proposals, declared the fairest offerer, and so admitted to be the contractor accepted of by his Majesty, after making known the names of his partners, viz., Mr. Vincent, Mr. Brett, and Mr. Parsons,² and the further debate of this matter adjourned to the next meeting on Saturday, at which time Mr. Hayter³ was to bring the particulars which he some time since presented to my Lord Treasurer as points fit to be adjusted in the new contract to his Majesty's benefit upon agreement with the new contractors, and particularly in a point now proposed by Sir A. Deane, of lessening the quantity of beer now allowed by his Majesty to each seaman, being a gallon⁴ per diem, Giving the seamen some consideration in lieu thereof, which as it is believed will be more to their content, no man drinking his whole proportion, so will it be attended with extraordinary benefits to his Majesty, and more especially that of enabling his ships to carry their full proportion of victuals and to stay abroad in execution of his service accordingly.

¹ Immediately.

² The final contract, signed 31st December, 1677, does not bear the name of Mr. Hornby, but only those of the other three; see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 165.

³ One of the two clerks of the acts.

⁴ The amount eventually provided for by the contract was 'one gallon, wine measure' (*ib.*, i. 166).

OCTOBER 27, 1677

[*Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Master of the Ordnance; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

His Majesty being pleased to take into consideration the dispatch of the new victualling contract, in order to the timely issuing of the declaration for the next year, And it appearing that there were several smaller circumstances on the part of the contractors which called for adjustment, as several others on his Majesty's part which the O[fficers of the] N[avy] proposed for his Majesty's advantage to be obtained from the said contractors not hitherto provided for in any past contracts; The whole of each part was referred to the Officers of the Navy and the said contractors to confer mutually upon and adjust the same to the satisfaction of each, as near as upon conferring together they can do it, and to report the result thereof to their Lordships.

Memorandum. That in order to the drawing up the clause by which these contractors are to oblige themselves to give his Majesty credit to the value of £60,000, It was observed by some of my Lords that though Mr. Hornby in his proposal offered it with a condition of being allowed 8 per cent. interest, no interest was demanded by or mentioned to Mr. Hornby, and that consequently care should be taken to draw up this article so as that his Majesty may not be liable to the payment of any interest. But upon further opening of this matter, it was observed that the credit which his Majesty will expect from these contractors will lie in their advancing of victuals to his Majesty and not money, and so no occasion left for the debate of interest, the contractors' profit being no less in this case than in the other parts of their contract arising from their price paid them by his Majesty for their provisions, and the method of their payment being to be the same (my Lord Treasurer's intentions being asked therein) with that of their payment upon their declaration.

Quaere, for the next meeting of my Lords, some further explanation thereof, so as it may appear that the King has, by this covenant for £60,000, credit in some

benefit above what he has in the ordinary method of his service upon declaration ; Which seem[s] not clearly to be expected in case the method of payment in each be the same.

His Majesty being also given to understand that the said contractors do desire to be informed touching the Mediterranean victualling, whether that was to come in their hands now or not ; It was observed to his Majesty that the victualling is in the hands of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck by contract not determinable otherwise than at the warning provided for in the said contract, viz., upon or before the Michaelmas Day twelvemonth before the Christmas at which the King would have that contract determine ; As also that these proposers do expressly covenant that in all things not expressed in their proposal they will abide by the terms of Sir D. Gauden's last contract, in which, after investing him with the general victualling of the navy, an exception is brought in to that of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's contract for the Straits. Upon which it was declared by his Majesty and my Lords that Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's contract was not to be interrupted at all by this proposal, But that nevertheless the difference between the price now demanded by the proposers, viz., 8*d.*,¹ and what the King give[s] Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*, is such as that his Majesty ought to be eased of this bargain with Sir T. Clutterbuck as soon as may be, and that therefore it would be reasonable to give Sir T. C. present warning of his Majesty's purpose for the determination of his contract at the end of the next year, so as his Majesty may be then wholly at liberty therefrom. And accordingly, Sir T. C. being called in, my Lord Privy Seal in the name of his Majesty and my Lords declared the same to him, which he receiving without any objection or reply thereto, withdrew. After which it being moved, that upon the expiration of Sir T. C.'s contract the victualling of the Mediterranean ought in capacity to devolve upon these contractors in consideration of the lowness of the rates which they have first proposed for the same, It seemed to meet with no objection from any of my Lords, nor did come to any form of

¹ *I.e.*, 8*d.* a day per man.

resolution, nor any debate whether it were not most regular to do then as his Majesty is pleased to do now, viz., expose the same to a new bidding, Or, if these proposers shall then certainly have it, to put it in their contract now, with an obligation on their parts to take it then at the price they now offered.

The freight due for the Rebecca merchantman to Sir Thomas Gold¹ and Captain Thomas Laramour, her captain, in respect of her service at Virginia, to be paid, except that part of it for which application should be made to the Office of the Ordnance.

Also Captain Morris's petition for the freight of the Young Prince, employed on the like service.

A petition being read of Francis Rogers, late chaplain of the Bristol, and a certificate on his behalf from Sir John Berry,² Colonel Morrison,³ and Captain Ashby,⁴ shewing the extraordinary duty by him performed with them in Virginia, in preaching in several parts of the country, in long journeys by him taken for administering the sacrament of baptism in places unsupplied with ministers, in visiting the condemned rebels, and preaching to the country the doctrine of obedience, For which extraordinary services on shore he prays some consideration from his Majesty above his ordinary pay ; His Majesty and my Lords were pleased to declare his services worthy of encouragement, but that their performance having relation only to the shore, he was not to expect it from the Admiralty, but to be directed to apply himself to Mr. Secretary Williamson, to whom it was committed to move his Majesty in it elsewhere (my Lord Treasurer being present).

A report being read from the Officers of the Navy upon the petition and in favour of John Silvester, Samuel Coleson, and Henry Thomas, mariners, lately belonging to the Rose, and left by accident on shore at Plymouth, for which they are made runaways ; RESOLVED (upon the inducements mentioned in the said report), that the

¹ Mr. Thomas Gold, sheriff of the City of London, had been knighted in 1675.

² Naval commander at Virginia.

³ Commander of land-forces at Virginia.

⁴ Commander of the Rose.

R. be taken from their names on the ship's book so as they may be entitled to their wages, saving 30s. to be defalked from each to the benefit of the Chest at Chatham, with which, and the charges they were at in following their ship, the said Officers are of opinion they will make sufficient satisfaction for their said neglect in not attending to the departure of their said ship's boat.

A paper being read from Marmaduke Page, purser of the *Stavoreen*, for some allowances upon his accounts in which he insists upon satisfaction from his Majesty ; ORDERED, that the same be referred to the Officers of the Navy.

A petition being also read from Thomas Lynch, late purser of the *Adventure*, praying that Mr. Speaker being now come to town ([to] whom his case has for some time past been committed), he may have right done him in reference to the matters wherein he pretends to have received wrong upon the unjust suggestions of Jones the informer, in pursuance whereof he also stands discharged from his said employment and declared incapable of any other, And Mr. Speaker thereupon shewing that what had been done in the case of the petitioner had been done upon a public and solemn examination of the facts, in the presence and with the assistance of Sir Thomas Allin, Comptroller of the Navy, And observing also of how endless a trouble it would be to his Majesty and all his officers in case room should be given for perpetual solicitations in matters determined in upon so solemn inquiry as this of the petitioner's has been ; RESOLVED, that no further hearing be allowed to the petitioner, but that he abide under the censure passed upon him according to the report of his guilt stated upon the examination thereof taken by Mr. Speaker and Sir Thomas Allin.

The weekly papers from the Officers of the Navy relating to their progress in their providing of stores and building of thirty ships read, bearing date 26th instant.

Sir William Poole's letter of 9 September from Newfoundland and the accompanying papers 'answering the several *quaeres* given him at his going to sea relating to the state of the Newfoundland fishery' read, and 'reserved for future use.'

Heads of Agreement.	Hornby.	Heron.	Bredon.	Goldstone.	Old Contractors.
Victu- alling per man a day Victualling in kind or credit Take off old stores and provisions To continue	6 <i>d.</i> 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ <i>d.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> — — — —	— 8 <i>d.</i> 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>d.</i> — — Admitted Five years	6 <i>d.</i> 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ <i>d.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> — Demands a liberty Admitted — Per 10 months	5 $\frac{3}{4}$ <i>d.</i> } or £5,000 add(?) 8 <i>d.</i> } in peace, £7,000 8 <i>d.</i> } in war, salary 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ <i>d.</i> — — — { 3 <i>d.</i> in hand, the rest in 10 months; harbour victuals monthly; Tangier, $\frac{1}{3}$ in hand, the other $\frac{2}{3}$ upon shipping — Time to consider	All as now in their present contract with- out any alter- ation, and not otherwise.
Payment	—	—	—	—	
House, offices, &c. . . .	Admits it	Demanded Admits it at 8 percent. interest per annum, and funds for security	Time to consider	—	
£60,000 credit	Admits it	Admitted	Admitted	Admitted, with the allowance and usage since the King's Res- toration	
Other circumstances per present contract	Admits it	Admitted	Admitted		

NOVEMBER 3, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Craven ; Lord Ossory ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Master of the Ordnance ; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Application being made to his Majesty and my Lords by one Browne of Albrough,¹ shewing that the waft² taken up at sea by Sir Roger Strickland³ in his late return from the Straits, and now brought in with him to Portsmouth, doth belong to him and others of that place, owners of the said vessel under the name of John Browne, Isaac Heath, and others, and praying that after proof shall be effectually made of the propriety of the said vessel, consideration may be had of the loss sustained by them by her being pillaged at sea, and her company carried (by the Turks as they suppose) captives to Algier, and that their vessel may thereupon be restored to them by his Majesty ; His Majesty was pleased, with the advice of my Lords, to grant, upon the aforesaid consideration, that the said vessel be restored to her said owners, provided that the same be done upon a petition from the owners to his Majesty praying the same, and received of him as of his Majesty's bounty and grace, and not as of right. And, lastly, that in regard of the extraordinary care taken by Sir Roger Strickland and his company in the furnishing and fitting of the said vessel for the sea, and for the encouragement of Sir Roger Strickland and all others his commanders to take the like care of the vessels of his Majesty's subjects which they may meet withal at sea in distress, the owners do covenant to allow to Sir Roger Strickland and his company one-fourth part of the value of the vessel and her furniture in the condition she was found, which amounts to double salvage.

¹ Aldeburgh.

² ' *To waft* is to guard any ship or fleet at sea, as we call men-of-war which attend merchants, to conduct them safe along, *wafters* ' (Sir Henry Mainwaring, *The Seaman's Dictionary*). ' *Waft* ' seems here to be used of a ship so wafted.

³ See *D. N. B.*, lv. 52.

His Majesty taking into consideration the business of the contract with the new victuallers of the navy touching the point of the Mediterranean victualling, whether that were to be understood to be included to the said gentlemen within their present agreement; It appeared upon the debate thereof that the said new victuallers had excluded themselves from any present pretence thereto by submitting themselves in all matters not expressed in their proposals to the terms of Sir D. Gauden's present contract, in which that of the Mediterranean is excepted out of the general victualling and reserved to Sir Thomas Clutterbuck. Upon which it was declared that the new victuallers (who were called in to hear the same and did acquiesce therein) had no right to expect to be admitted presently¹ into the possession of the Mediterranean victualling, it not being in his Majesty's disposure whilst Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's contract was in being, But that his Majesty having declared to Sir Thomas Clutterbuck his expectation and pleasure that the said contract should determine at the end of the next year, Mr. Brett and his partners, the new victuallers, should (for their encouragement in the price which they have proposed to serve his Majesty at, below what is at this day done either by Sir Denis Gauden or any of the said victuallers of the navy, or Sir Thomas Clutterbuck in that of the Mediterranean) succeed Sir Thomas Clutterbuck in that of the Mediterranean at the price of their proposal, viz., 8*d.* per man a day. Which the said victuallers accepting of with great satisfaction in his Majesty's proceedings with them therein, further debate was entered upon with them touching their present entry upon the victualling his Majesty's ships at Tangier and also at Lisbon, (his Majesty having a purpose of making use of that port during the present war with Algier, the chief seat whereof is likely to be in the mouth of the Straits), even for the present year, and they declared themselves willing to accommodate his Majesty's desires therein (after having for a while withstood it) at the rates following, viz., at 8*d.* for Tangier, 8½*d.* for Lisbon, with the condition of having

¹ Immediately.

convoy, and $7\frac{3}{4}d.$ for the victuals which we shall spend of theirs in the Straits during the next year, At the end whereof it is designed they shall enter upon the Mediterranean victualling in their own right at the price in their proposal.

After which the business of the £60,000 credit was taken into consideration, in order to its being explained so as that his Majesty may appear to have a real benefit from the article about the said credit beyond what upon second thoughts seems to be collected from the discourse had thereon the last meeting, and, upon full debate had upon it now, it was expressly concluded that the payment which the new victuallers are to expect of what they shall supply his Majesty with upon the account of this £60,000 credit shall be by twelve equal monthly payments, whereof the first to be made at the month's end after the day it shall be made to appear to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of the Navy (whereof the Comptroller of the Victualling to be one) that the whole value of the said £60,000 credit is effectually laid out in provisions, and those provisions found actually remaining in stores, with interest to be allowed them for what failures they shall at any time meet with in the due payment of any of the said 12 monthly proportions of the said £60,000.

Mr. Ashton desiring leave to take his course at law against William Gwilliam, purser of the Monmouth, upon matters of difference depending between them two; RESOLVED, that upon the usual notice given to the party he have the same leave given him which is ordinarily granted to others in the like case.

ORDERED, that the Officers of the Navy do come prepared the next meeting to give an account of the posture wherein they take the victualling appointed for the service of his Majesty's ships at Tangier to be at this day.

My Lord Treasurer taking notice of the instrument, namely Captain Shales,¹ whom his Majesty had (at his Lordship's motion) been pleased to allow of his entertaining for the keeping particular and constant account

¹ See note 1 on p. 210 above.

of the progress made upon the 30 new ships, in order to his Lordship's having a perfect account at all times given him of all matters relating thereto, respecting either money, materials, workmen, or aught else conducing to his th[o]rough knowledge of the well or ill management of the dispatch of that work, Was pleased to observe to his Majesty and my Lords that he doth not find that half the work of 32 old ships is done, though he has supplied the Officers of the Navy with more money upon the particular account of the repair of those ships than the £65,000 by them demanded for the same ; As also that extraordinary numbers of house-carpenters are at this day employed in the yards, beyond any apparent reason for the same, and more hands in general upon the old ships than upon the new. To which the Officers of the Navy gave some present answer, by saying that they are not behindhand in any part of the work of the old ships, saving the Charles, London, and Mary-rose, whose works upon opening them proves much greater than could be foreseen till opened ; That the number of their house-carpenters at this day employed is indispensable, in respect of the work they are under a necessity of having done for the enabling them to carry on the new ships, viz., about their cranes, wharfs, storehouses, docks, and launches, all which is the proper work of house-carpenters ; And that they do employ as many hands upon the new ships as they can by any means get materials into the King's yards to employ them upon ; But referred themselves to the giving a more particular answer thereto for my Lord Treasurer's satisfaction, in case his Lordship desires it, Which was not further insisted upon at present by my Lord but as a caution to them in those particulars, and aught else wherein their care in the due management of these two great works of repairing the old and building the new ships is concerned.

A memorial prepared by Mr. Pepys for the Council Table about a privy seal for money for the going in hand with the providing of materials, etc., for five more of the 30 ships above the first 15, being by him first shewn my Lord Treasurer and then read to the Board, was approved by both.

A letter being read from Sir John Kempthorne,¹ giving a fresh account of some further discoveries of rottenness in the timbers of the Oxford, a new ship² built by Mr. Baylie at Bristol; RESOLVED, that a strict survey be taken of her by the Officers of the Navy, and that the Centurion be fitted forth in the room of her, designed for Sir Roger Strickland to return back in to the Straits.

This day the general establishment of men and guns for the whole fleet, new and old, was at length presented to his Majesty and my Lords by the Officers of the Navy signed by them, and was confirmed by the Lords in being by them also signed in usual manner above the said Officers, with his Majesty's own confirmation added thereto by his Royal hand at the top, enjoining the same to be strictly observed without any alteration to be made thereto upon any consideration whatsoever.

His Majesty being by some late account of the service of the galley-frigates in the Straits in retaking of the Alger man-of-war the Golden Marigold, led to the reflecting upon the special usefulness of ships of that build during a war with the Turks, was, upon advising with my Lords and the O[fficers of the] N[avy], pleased to resolve upon having 2 more of the dimensions of the Charles built by the same hands in merchants' yards, as the Officers of the Navy shall advise. And it was RESOLVED, that an estimate be forthwith prepared of the charge of building 2 such vessels accordingly.

Mr. Pepys communicating to the Board an information he had received from Sir Richard Haddock and Captain Mason under their hands, touching Captain Booth's late declaration to them at Yarmouth just before his death that, durst he have trusted his lieutenant to have gone on shore there about the getting of a pilot, (which for the drunkenness of his said lieutenant he could not do), he had not fell into that misfortune which occasioned his death, Adding several instances of the debauchery and dissoluteness of his said lieutenant (Hauton)³; His Majesty and my Lords were pleased

¹ Resident commissioner of the navy at Portsmouth; see *D. N. B.*, xxx. 397.

² A 4th-rate, built in 1674.

³ John Houghton, first lieutenant of the Falcon, a 4th-rate.

immediately to resolve upon the giving an exemplary instance of their indignation against crimes of that sort in any of the officers of his Majesty's ships by turning him out of his employment as soon as the ship comes home,¹ Commanding Mr. Pepys to put his Majesty timely in mind thereof at the ship's return.

Mention being made of Sir Robert Southwell's petition lately presented to the Board (upon the day of the general bidding for the victualling of the navy) craving a *salve* to his late father's² and now his own proper interest in the victualling action at Kinsale in Ireland, It was considered that the new victuallers did bid for, and care taken in the whole, as Sir Denis Gauden and his partners were, and that therefore Sir Robert Southwell stands open to the making the best argument he can with these as he did with the former victuallers. But that nevertheless, out of a regard both to his own and father's merits, as also the laudable execution which his Majesty's service has always met with in their part of the victualling his ships, Sir R. Southwell's petition and case should be in his Majesty's and their Lordships' name especially recommended to the said victuallers for all due respect to be shewn by them to³ his Majesty's reasonable pretences and desires contained therein.

The Nonsuch is ready in the Downs to proceed on her intended voyage to the Canaries.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy being read, enclosing another to them from Sir Richard Beach⁴ of the 1st instant, giving notice of some extraordinary lavishness of expense adventured upon by Mr. Pett, master-shipwright of Chatham, without order and beyond all example, in the carving and gilding of a boat fore and aft for his Royal Highness's new yacht the Mary; His Royal Highness being present⁵ was pleased in the first

¹ He was nevertheless appointed first lieutenant of the Unicorn, a 2nd-rate, in 1678.

² On the Southwells, father and son, see *D. N. B.*, liii. 299 and 300.

³ MS. 'by.'

⁴ Resident commissioner of the navy at Chatham.

⁵ At the meetings of the renewed admiralty commission of 1677 'his Royal Highness did, by the king's command, always

place to express not only his great dislike of the said shipwright's proceedings in the particular case but his apprehension of the chargeable consequences of permitting shipwrights to exercise that liberty which they are found daily to usurp of adorning their ships with carving, painting, and gilding, without any limitation but at their own pleasure ; and his Majesty and their Lordships were pleased no less to testify their disapproval of the shipwright's said proceedings, and to RESOLVE, not only upon recommending it to the special care of the Officers of the Navy in general that this profuseness of the said shipwrights may for the future be corrected by keeping them within the limits of their estimates, but to the particular care of Sir John Tippetts, the Surveyor of the Navy, and Sir Anthony Deane, to prepare as soon as may be and present to his Majesty at this Board some proposals towards a standing settlement in this affair of the doing carving, gilding, and painting works of his Majesty's ships of each rate and sort, that as far as the same is capable of it his Majesty's future charge upon the same may be in some good degree bounded, if not strictly ascertained. And it being on this occasion further humbly offered to his Majesty by Mr. Pepys that the master-shipwrights, when questioned touching their warrant upon which they ground their proceedings on any of these works of charge, do generally pretend his Majesty's verbal command ; His Majesty was pleased to declare it for his pleasure, and to direct that the same be made known as a standing rule for the future to all his master-shipwrights and other officers in his yards, that he would not expect their putting in execution any verbal orders given them from himself wherein any of his treasure or stores is to be expended or employed, until they shall have communicated such his Majesty's orders to the Officers of the Navy, and receive a further signification of his Majesty's pleasure, or the commands of the Lords of the Admiralty in writing from under the

assist, until by his removal out of the land in 1678 (through the malignity of the then times) his Majesty was (to the utmost ruin of his navy) bereft of his brother's further aid therein' (*Pepysian MSS., Miscellanies*, xi. 223). '1678' is a reference to March 1678-9.

hands of the said Officers of the Navy, concerning the same. And it was further RESOLVED, that among other means of preventing these exorbitant proceedings of master-shipwrights for the future, it be declared and observed as a standing rule in the navy that whatever charge in any of the said works shall be proceeded upon by a master-shipwright, or his order, contrary to, without, or beyond the direction of the Officers of the Navy, shall (as far as the same will extend) be made good to his Majesty out of the wages and salary of the said master-shipwright ; Provided only, and it was directed by his Majesty, that the paintings provided by Mr. Pett, the master-builder at Woolwich, by his Majesty's own command (which he was pleased to declare the whole to be) as they are now to be found in and upon his new yacht the Charlotte, be with all speed satisfied for by the Officers of the Navy, according to such agreement (if any) as Mr. Pett did make for the same, or for want thereof at such reasonable rates as the said Officers of the Navy can now agree with the painter for.

A report read from the Officers of the Navy and allowed, about the most effectual method of fetching in several workmen who have been pressed into his Majesty's yards and do not appear.

A petition of one Bloom for a pass for a ship contrary to the rules established by the King and Council read, and denied until debated at the Committee of Trade, whither it is to be referred.

A report read from the Officers of the Navy touching Charles Ashton, gunner of the Swallow, wherein though they own him to have served his Majesty the full number of years limited for a superannuated officer of that sort, yet it is not his age but wounds that disables him from further serving his Majesty, he appearing but 56 years old ; It was thought a matter of dangerous consequence to admit him into the number of superannuated officers, lest by his example all maimed men and persons above his age may pretend to the same favour, and that therefore it was more advisable that he should be continued in pay as gunner and his attendance on his duty dispensed with until he shall be fully cured of his wounds, than admit it as a person superannuated, But this also

was thought too much to be suddenly resolved, for fear of its consequence, and therefore respited without other resolution than that he should not be admitted to the privilege of a superannuated officer.

NOVEMBER 10, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Lord Ossory; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer; Master of the Ordnance. Navy Officers attending.]

RESOLVED, that a pass be allowed to the ship Danby, though foreign-built, she being built abroad wholly by English hands and being wholly English propriety, laden with timber for his Majesty's own service, and the pass to extend no further than to the bringing her into England.

Question be[ing] proposed touching the allowing the Officers of the Navy to pay wages to Sir John Berry as commander of the Swallow from before his lying on board (the time at which by the ordinary practice of the navy the wages of a commander are to commence), and it appearing, by the written testimony of the officers of the yard and the verbal one of the Officers of the Navy now attending, that Sir John Berry did give his daily attendance at the yard to further the fitting forth, and that his not lying aboard was occasioned by her being in a dock, which nevertheless to supply so as to enable him to further her dispatch he was at the charge of hiring a lodging¹ in the town, to his great expense; It was RESOLVED, that Sir J. B. be allowed his wages from the time he began to give that attendance, the considerations before-mentioned being expressed in the warrant for the same, for the future justifying thereof and preventing any ill use of the precedent.

Bailiffs ordered to be taken into custody for arresting 2 men belonging to Deptford yard without leave.

Debate being had of the requisiteness of furnishing his Majesty's ships employed against the Turks with some

¹ MS. 'loading.'

landmen to do the service of small shot, that being a particular wherein the Turks do principally annoy¹ us, and the English seamen being said rarely to arrive at being good marksmen with their small shot; RESOLVED, that the ships so employed be furnished each of them, as well those now going out as those already abroad, after the rate of 30 to each 3rd-rate ship and 20 to a 4th, and that the ships now going do each of them proportionably carry their share of the landmen designed for the supply of the ships abroad, The said landmen to be reputed as part of the ship's complement upon which they serve.

RESOLVED, that the *Rupert* be sheathed with lead 5 or 6 strakes above her keel, The King being willing to trust the rest of her to her commander Captain Herbert's care in keeping her clean, as her security against the worm.

Mr. Pepys is directed to send a small quantity to Mr. Sheere[s] at Tangier of the tar prepared by a late stranger who offered the same to his Majesty as an effectual prevention to the worm, by paying² the plank with it, without other sheathing.

Discourse being had of the requisiteness of providing a hulk for the use of his Majesty's ships in the Straits; RESOLVED, that the O[fficers of the] N[avy] should be considering how the same may be done, but to forbear the execution of it till we hear from Sir John Narbrough more particularly touching the same, and the place where his Majesty's service will call for her being lodged at.

The *Anne* yacht to carry seamen to Portsmouth for the service of the *Rupert*.

The like RESOLVED touching the *Merlin* yacht; Sir John Holmes to be directed, when he shall be returned from attending the Prince of Orange to Holland,³ to be gathering some seamen out of the merchant-ships which shall come in, for the supply of Sir John Narbrough in the Straits and the manning of his prizes there.

¹ MS. 'among.'

² See note on p. 504 above.

³ On his return from England with his wife; his marriage with the Princess Mary had taken place on 4th November.

Sir Robert Holmes¹ to be directed to discharge the small Ostend privateer stopped by his order at the Isle of Wight.²

An application for a pass referred to the Commissioners of the Customs.

Mrs. Roome Coyle, the wife of Captain Roome Coyle,³ pretending ill usage from her husband and thereupon petitioning that, living separate from her husband, his Majesty would be pleased to oblige him out of his wages to allow her some annual support; His Majesty was pleased to order Captain Roome Coyle to be commanded to attend him speedily at this Board in order to his answering to his wife's complaint and his Majesty's determination what may be fit to be done thereon.

A report being read from the Officers [of the] Navy touching Mr. Betts's proceeding at Yarmouth about the imprested men there, and the desire of the Bailiffs of Yarmouth to have a press warrant directed to themselves, the same was granted.

A petition being read of one John Note, shewing and proving the many ships he has served his Majesty in, and the miserable estate of his body contracted by his being obliged to the saving himself upon a mast in the sea, and thereupon living 5 days and night[s] without sustenance; His Majesty was pleased graciously to grant him as of his bounty, to be paid by my Lord Treasurer and not out of the navy (for preventing all ill consequences), the sum of £20.⁴

The Adam and Eve to be allowed freight for her hire at Virginia.

Two or three petitions being read, all of one tenor, from several midshipmen extraordinary, praying the benefit of the allowance extraordinary for their entertainment which they say has been heretofore granted

¹ Governor of the Isle of Wight; see *D. N. B.*, xxvii. 194.

² MS. 'Isle of White.'

³ On the career of Captain Thomas Roome Coyle, see Charnock, *Biog. Nav.*, i. 175. 'Roome' is apparently a second Christian name, very rare at this time, but not unknown.

⁴ *Margin*: 'John Note allowed £20 by the king for his sea-sufferings.'

to others in their quality, but is now by the Officers of the Navy denied them; ANSWERED, that never any such allowance was ever established or intended to midshipmen extraordinary but only to volunteers, and they therefore are to bring instances that any have received it.

NOVEMBER 17, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Lord Craven; Lord Ossory; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

A letter read from Sir Edward Seymour, Vice-Admiral of Devon,¹ concerning a Dutch man-of-war put by stress of weather into Torbay, and there lying under the apprehension of being attacked by some French men-of-war plying off at sea near her, but without any appearance yet of any act of hostility designed to be done by him to her there.

The present year's victualling declaration presented, and ordered to be sent to the Council Table.

A letter read from Mr. Puckle at Brussels touching the present posture of the Admiralty affairs there.

An Order of Council read, bearing date the 14th of November, revoking all former Orders in force for the stopping of any privateers, whether Spanish or French.

The Officers of the Navy informing his Majesty, both by letter and discourse, in Captain Herbert's undertaking² for his care in the keeping of his ship the *Rupert* under so constant and effectual a cleanness as to secure her against the worm without more charge in sheathing than that of her keel, and thereupon signifying their consent that she should be adventured to the Straits unsheathed; Upon the encouragement of this his undertaking his Majesty was pleased, with the advice of my Lords, to agree thereto, out of a desire of preserving her quality of sailing, which sheathing would be a prejudice to, and accordingly ORDERED it.

A perfect account of the number of small shot designed for the ships employed against the Turks being presented to the Board by Mr. Pepys, containing the distinct

¹ See p. 398, note 4.

² See 10th November.

number designed to each ship, as well of those going out as those already there ; The same was read, approved, and ORDERED by his Majesty to be delivered to the Duke of Monmouth,¹ for his directing the drafts of the land-soldiers² which are to be made out of the several regiments and garrisons conformable thereto.

The Foresight and the Assistance appointed convoy for the herring-fishery this year.

The Navy Office estimates of the charge of the rebuilding the Old James and building two new galley-frigates read and confirmed by the Lords, with his Majesty's pleasure declared that they be built 6 inches broader in the midships than the Charles was.

Report agreed to advising that a clerk of the survey be appointed for Woolwich, 'distinct from that at Deptford.'

A petition of one Garrett Ep[p]ing read, praying leave for the setting up of a standing ferry for all mixed passengers between Rochester and Sheerness ; ORDERED, that it be referred to the consideration of Sir Richard Beach and the rest of his Majesty's officers at Chatham for them to report their opinion of the usefulness of the said ferry to his Majesty's subjects, and how it may be done with safety to his Majesty's ships by whose sides the passage-boats must pass night and day as the tide shall require.

His Majesty being pleased, according to his late resolution,² to give a hearing to the case and complaint of Mrs. Roome Coyle against her husband, Captain Roome Coyle, it appeared that besides their being both blameable, and she more especially in declaring before his Majesty her resolution never to live with him upon any consideration whatsoever, while he at the same time invited her thereto with promise of treating her well, they were already entered into a course of law one with the other ; His Majesty, with the advice of my Lords, judged it a matter improper for him to give himself the trouble of interposing in, and therefore dismissed both their cause and them, committing it to Mr. Pepys to endeavour what he can by fair persuasions to prevail with

¹ Captain-general of the forces.

² See 10th November.

Captain Roome Coyle peaceably to allow some reasonable maintenance to his wife during their separation.

Notice taken again of the *Nonsuch's* being still kept in the Downs by cross winds, so as not to be able to prosecute her voyage to the Canaries ; Sir Thomas Allin observing to his Majesty and my Lords that some of the merchants concerned are of opinion of its being now so late as that it will be of no use for his Majesty to be at the charge of sending a ship thither now on their behalf. Touching which Sir Thomas Allin is directed to make further inquiry of the merchants¹ and to report to Mr. Pepys the result of their advice touching the sending of this ship, in order to his Majesty's requiring her to stay or continuing his order to her to be gone, as he shall see convenient.

Mr. Pepys proposing that at the same time when the general establishment of men and guns lately confirmed by his Majesty and my Lords at this table² shall be offered for confirmation at the Council Board, the general book of rates of the number and wages of all officers serving his Majesty at sea, which lay at this day very loose, uncertain, and imperfect, might be prepared for confirmation also, forasmuch as for want thereof his Majesty's treasure upon that great head of sea wages is paid away upon very unsteady measures, very unjustifiable in the Comptroller of the Navy ; the same was unanimously judged necessary, and ORDERED to be with all convenient speed prepared and presented to this Board by Mr. Pepys accordingly. Who also moving it as a matter fit to be considered, whether it may not be a seasonable time, before the last confirmation to be expected from the Council Table of the general establishment of men and guns to the fleet, that the present assortment of the ships of the several rates (which no man can reconcile) may be overlooked, and reduced to some better method of sorting, some ships of a lower rate exceeding at this day, both in burthen and force, others of a higher rate, And thereupon giving his Majesty and the Lords a short account of the history of dividing the Navy

¹ Sir Thomas Allin, the comptroller of the navy, had himself been a merchant and shipowner.

² See 3rd November.

Royal into rates, and how the present ill assortment thereof has grown from the liberty taken by master-shipwrights of exceeding the dimensions given them by the Officers of the Navy for the building of their ships by, (though by this means his Majesty has received the benefit of his fleet's swelling into ships of bigger dimensions than otherwise it would have done) ; The motion was approved of, and these principal distinctions concluded upon for the chiefer rates, viz., the 1st and 2nd to be distinguished from the lower by their having 3 decks, the 3rd to contain all ships of 2 decks from 60 guns upward, the 4th from 40 guns up to 60. But reflection being had upon the satisfaction that will reasonably be looked for by the officers of the ships whose rate, and consequently their wages, shall be to be lowered, and several other things which will require distinct consideration, It was concluded upon to be a matter that would require more time in its considering than can be now offered it, and that the evil attending its present ill posture consists rather in the show of some want of order in our books than any real prejudice to his Majesty. It was ORDERED to be respited without stopping the progress of the other matters in hand for it, and committed to Mr. Pepys to ripen his said motion against another time, when it may be put in execution as properly as now.

NOVEMBER 24, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

The Officers of the Navy having been let to understand that his Majesty and my Lords would expect this day to have an account given them of the present state of the fleet in the Straits under Sir John Narbrough, with reference to his being supplied with victuals until the new victuallers shall come into the execution of their new contract, which takes not place till after the 1st January next: The said Officers present his Majesty with an account thereof by a memorial in writing, shewing that

the new victuallers are actually at work in killing of flesh and making other preparations, so to have undertaken to the said Officers to have 500 men's victuals for 4 months ready to ship off by the middle of December for the supply of the ships in the Straits, and as much more by the end of the said month. Next, that Sir Denis Gauden and the rest of the old victuallers have sent away and have now going the last parcel of their declaration for the present year for the ships in the Straits. Lastly, that Sir Thomas C[lutterbuck] had very lately assured them that, be his Majesty's occasions as great as they will, his ships shall not lose any time at Livorne in their being supplied with victuals after the same shall be declared for, and that his last letters thence do tell him that he had then actually in store at Livorne 2,500 men's victuals for 4 months ready to be issued upon demand, and several ships in readiness to transport the same or any part thereof from thence to any other port or place where his Majesty's service shall require it, which being said, his Majesty and my Lords were pleased to recommend to their care¹ the quickening of the new victuallers, and forwarding of them all they can in the dispatch of their victuals away, both now and from time to time hereafter, that the service of the Straits be subject to no more disappointments, as heretofore it has too often been, and that they do hasten the distribution of the ensuing year's declaration to the several ports, with some assignment of the times at which the proportion of each port shall be required of the victuallers to be actually in store at each place, To prevent the evils of which we have had frequent instances this year from unseasonable (though otherwise effectual) supply of the victuals declared for in several places, and particularly at Tangier ; His Majesty and my Lords conceiving great satisfaction in the reliance they have upon the th[o]rough compliance of the present contractors.

Sir Denis Gauden and Sir Denny Ashburnham² being upon occasion of some part of this discourse called in, and giving his Majesty and my Lords an account of their misfortune in having one of their victualling-ships

¹ *I.e.* to the care of the officers of the navy.

² One of Gauden's partners in the expiring victualling contract.

(viz., the Phoenix, bound for Tangier) seized by the Turks and sunk upon the bar of Sallee in her carrying in there, Upon which ship Mr. Benjamin Gauden, son of Sir Denis and one of his fellow-contractors, was with 2 other gentlemen, Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Peter Cole, brothers, going with money and credits to Tangier for the adjusting of all accounts with Mr. Bowles¹ and better settlement of all their affairs there for the future; His Majesty and my Lords were pleased at their instance to recommend it in their names with all earnestness to Sir John Narbrough that no opportunity be lost in the recovering the liberty of the said three gentlemen that shall offer itself, by either treaty, redemption, or exchange.

Mr. Brett and the rest of the new victuallers being also upon this debate discoursed with, and confirming to his Majesty the undertaking which had been already reported to him from them by the Officers of the Navy, did propose several particulars by way of request to the Board, viz., First, that they might have the use of some store-rooms which Captain Bolland² informed them were built in or upon the Mole at Tangier and now lie unemployed; which, as they observed, will be much more convenient for the lodging of their provisions in for the use of the ships than the carrying them up into and bringing them back again from the town. This desire of theirs was readily granted by his Majesty and my Lords, who were pleased to commit it to Mr. Pepys to write effectually from them about it to Mr. Sheere[s], viz., that so much store room as can be spared them without prejudice to the affairs of the Mole. Next, they desired, and the Officers of the Navy also do by letter this day on their behalf propose, that the duties for the victuals they shall provide and lodge at that port for the particular service of his Majesty's ships . . .³ Which being judged reasonable, and that the bringing of his Majesty's ships thither would be a benefit to that port, It was recom-

¹ Mr. Phineas Bowles, paymaster at Tangier.

² Captain Richard Bolland was a naval officer serving in the mole office at Tangier (E. M. G. Routh, *Tangier*, p. 145).

³ The omission in this sentence is fortunately supplied by the margin: 'To be exempted from paying duty carried or bought at Lisbon for the king's ships.'

mended to one of the Secretaries of State to confer with the Portugal Ambassador about it, upon a memorial of the matter to be to that purpose put into the Secretary's hands by Mr. Pepys. [Third], that forasmuch as they are called upon to proceed to action before their contract can be finished and passed the great seal, and consequently before they shall have the power provided for them therein of impressing workmen and carriages, whereof they are now in great want, and cannot at present have that power supplied to them [but]¹ by an Order from the Council Table until they shall be regularly possessed thereof by the passing of their contract ; which was also agreed to, and Mr. Pepys directed to deliver a memorial thereof to the Council Table the next sitting, which he did by putting the same into the hands of Mr. Secretary Williamson, as he did the other about Lisbon into Mr. Secretary Coventry's. Lastly, that they may be indemnified in their disbursements for the fitting the King's storehouses, ovens, etc., for the enabling themselves presently² to go to work before the same can be regularly surveyed and put into repair, as (they conceive) they ought to be by his Majesty or their predecessors the late victuallers ; which was also judged reasonable and the same ORDERED to be referred to the Officers of the Navy to see effectual right to be timely provided for them therein.

The Board being informed by Mr. Pepys of the order he had received, as Treasurer for Tangier, for the soliciting my Lord Treasurer for £500 towards the preparing a convenience for the commodious watering his Majesty's ships at Tangier, and shewing that it being a work principally designed for the service of his Majesty's ships coming to that port, and to be performed by Mr. Sheeres according to the advice he shall receive therein from Sir John Narbrough and the rest of the commanders of the fleet, the charge thereof seems not so properly to belong to Tangier as the navy, and therefore to be made payable by and the account thereof to be taken in the navy ;

¹ This insertion is justified by the margin : ' To be empowered to impress some workmen, carriages, &c., while the contract is passing.'

² Immediately.

The same was admitted, and ORDERED, that the whole of this matter be put into the hands of the Officers of the Navy. It was earnestly pressed by his Majesty and my Lords upon the Officers of the Navy to use all diligence in the dispatching away of the ships with stores designed to the Straits.

A report was read from the Officers of the Navy, to the great satisfaction of his Majesty and my Lords, giving an account of the names of several commanders who had appeared to them to have complied with the Lord Admiral's Instructions so fully as to have received the said Officers' certificates for the payment of their wages, according to the —— article of the Lord High Admiral's Instructions, the names of which commanders were as followeth, viz. :—

Captain John Ashby, of the Rose ;
Captain Lawrence Wright, of the Phoenix ;
Sir John Berry, of the Bristol ;
Captain Richard Trevanion, of the Yarmouth ;
Captain Richard Carter, of the Swan ;
Captain Richard Dickenson, of the Hunter ;

of whom his Majesty and my Lords were pleased to take special notice as persons fit to be preferred upon occasion of future employments before others who have not given the same account of the performance of their duties, whose neglects therein do now appear to his Majesty and my Lords wholly inexcusable by the due performances of these.

Mr. Secretary Williamson taking notice of some late discourse of the Dutch Ambassador by way of exception to the liberty by us challenged, and lately exercised by some of our captains, of going on board and searching of the ships of foreign princes, both men-of-war and others and in foreign ports, and taking thence what subjects of his Majesty's are found thereon, Upon the debate of which matter this day before his Majesty, this practice was ascertained by Mr. Vice-Chamberlain, Sir Thomas Allin, [and] Sir Richard Haddock, to have been used without interruption. The instructions to commanders of ships, as it stands at this day, was read, and confirmed by a copy of the like instructions given in the time of the Earl of

Lindsey¹ or Northumberland² produced by Mr. Secretary Williamson, with this only difference, that there was no clause then, as now, for the compelling the masters of foreign merchantmen to pay our seamen their wages when they are taken from them, which clause indeed was upon opening judged very severe, and hard to be expected that foreign princes should give way to, and in itself hard to justify in the reason of it, as being an encouragement to the subjects of his Majesty first to desert his service and next to do the like to foreigners to whom they adhere themselves, by tempting them to discover themselves to the King's captains in hopes of their wages only; Which, moreover, masters of ships have not always wherewith to pay, nor can without prejudice to their owners sometimes till the end of their voyage and discharge of their men. Upon which considerations it was generally concluded that this clause should for the future be expunged, and Mr. Pepys was directed to prepare himself to propose some other in the room of it against their next meeting; But so as that neither his Majesty's honour, the weal of the service, his right to the power of restraining his subjects, the securing of foreign princes, nor the preserving to ourselves the principal advantages which this nation has over its neighbours in the number and quality of our seamen, will admit of his Majesty's parting with this which has been the ancient practice of searching of foreign ships and taking thence what of his Majesty's subjects shall be found there contrary to his proclamation.

His Grace the Duke of Monmouth informs the Lords that he will very suddenly put into Mr. Pepys's hand an account of the several regiments and places from whence the small shot to be supplied the fleet in the Straits are to be collected³; And resolution thereupon taken by my Lords of having a particular quantity of victuals put on board each of the ships which is to transport these soldiers for the use of Sir John Narbrough, suitable to the number extraordinary each ship is to take in.

An order was this day signed, pursuant to an Order of

¹ Robert Bertie, first Earl of Lindsey, lord high admiral 1636.

² Algernon Percy, tenth Earl of Northumberland, lord high admiral 1638.

³ See 10th November.

Council of the 21st, for the declaration of victuals for the next year, amounting to 6276 men for the year round ; with a resolution that the Officers of the Navy shall not (as heretofore) leave the victuallers to their own choice of the times and proportions by which they will supply the victuals to be declared for to the port of Tangier.

My Lord Treasurer was pleased to take notice to the King that he has issued this year the sum of £509,000 upon the account of the navy, over and above the moneys paid upon the score of the new ships, in order to his Majesty's seeing how far the estimates at the beginning of the year are liable to the being exceeded¹ before the end of it.

DECEMBER 1, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Pepys, according to the resolution of the last day, offers to my Lords what he had prepared upon advising with the Officers of the Navy touching the articles of our commanders' instructions for the searching of foreign ships, taking out the King's subjects, and obliging the masters of the said foreign ships to the present payment of their wages. Upon which, after some debate had, the further consideration of it was referred to his Majesty's being present.

A letter being this day brought to the Board by a messenger express from Sir Thomas Morgan,² Governor of Jersey, signifying his having made seizure of a ship coming into the islands from the King's plantations contrary to the Act of Navigation, and thereupon desiring the directions of his Majesty and my Lords for his further proceedings touching the said ship ; RESOLVED, that Mr. Attorney-General³ and Sir Richard Lloyd⁴ (for

¹ MS. 'excluded.'

² See *D. N. B.*, xxxix. 33.

³ Sir William Jones ; see *ib.*, xxx. 172.

⁴ MS. 'Floyd.' Dr. Lloyd, surrogate to the judge of the admiralty, had been knighted 16th January, 1677 ; see *ib.*, xxxiii. 430.

what concerns the civil law) be acquainted by Mr. Pepys with the matter, and directed to attend his Majesty with their opinion therein at the Council Board the next sitting-day.

Mr. Secretary Coventry producing to my Lords the opinion of the Brotherhood of the Trinity House touching the practice of our English navigation, within the Mediterranean and the ports thereto belonging, in several points wherein our Consul at Genoa desires information, and particularly from that House, in order to the determining of differences frequently happening between the masters and mariners of our English navigation there; The same was read, judged reasonable by the Lords, and directed to be brought to the Council Board by Mr. Pepys (which was done the next Council day), to be thence handed by Mr. Secretary Coventry to the said Consul for his future guidance in the points therein determined.

Mr. Pepys tendering to my Lords a project by him prepared, in pursuance of his Majesty's and their directions heretofore given him,¹ of an establishment² for ascertaining the duties and trust of a lieutenant, and a method of judging of the capacity of every person pretending to the office of lieutenant before he be admitted therewith, the necessity of the same being grounded upon consideration mentioned in the preface of the said project; the same was, upon a large debate of every head, th[o]roughly approved of, saving in the two following particulars, viz., First, that of joining the Trinity House with the Officers of the Navy in the examining of the said pretenders to lieutenantancies, which though grounded by Mr. Pepys upon a consideration that the principal or rather the only subject-matter of their examination is the proficiency of the said persons in the art and practice of navigation and the duty of a mariner, whereof they are in other cases so far declared to [be] the only proper judges as to be entrusted with the examining and licensing of the masters and pilots of all the navigation of England passing into and out of the river of Thames, and particularly of all his Majesty's own ships, yet it was so far

¹ See p. 494 above.

² On the establishment of 18th December, 1677, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 202-5.

judged to be a diminution to the honour of lieutenants to be submitted to the examination of any but the King's own commanders, that the joining of the Trinity House with the Officers of the Navy was RESOLVED to be laid aside, and in the room of it put flag-officers or half-pay commanders, that is to say, commanders of 1st or 2nd-rate ships. Secondly, that of obliging every person pretending to a lieutenancy to have actually served one year in the quality and perform[ed] the duty of an ordinary midshipman, which upon debate being judged by some to be a service beneath the quality of a gentleman to go through, though by none urged to be otherwise unnecessary, The same was left to be considered by the Officers of the Navy together with some of the principal commanders of the fleet now in town, and the whole of this project to be reported, with their joint opinion upon it, to his Majesty and my Lords this day sevensnight.

An estimate being this day brought from the Officers of the Navy, pursuant to the late order of the Lords,¹ for the declaration of the ensuing year, was read and signed for the victuals, and another for the wages and wear and tear of the said declaration. Another estimate was in like² manner signed for certain extraordinary expenses lately brought upon the navy in freights of ships, etc., relating to the late rebellion in Virginia.

Mr. Pepys did this day tender to the Lords a project lately presented to his Majesty by Mr. John Gold, the merchant, for convoys to be settled for protecting of the Italian trade (wherein he is more particularly concerned) during the war with Algier. Which being read, and Mr. Pepys further informing their Lordships that he had conferred with Mr. Buckworth³ in order to the getting a joint representation and adjustment of the business of convoys into the Straits from the several bodies of merchants trading into the Mediterranean,⁴ in the same manner as was heretofore done in the year 1670, a copy

¹ See 24th November.

² MS. 'late.'

³ Mr. John Buckworth was a merchant of importance, probably connected with the Turkey Company.

⁴ Possibly the joint memorial, signed by thirty merchants, referred to in *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, iii. p. xvi n.

of which as it was delivered in to his Royal Highness jointly by our merchants trading to Portugal, Spain, Italy, and the like, was at the same time produced by Mr. Pepys and read, by which the officers of every trade were particularly accommodated by the same convoy without an unnecessary enhancing of his Majesty's charge by the multiplying of uncertain and promiscuous¹ convoys; the same was approved, and Mr. Pepys to solicit for the like joint project now from the said several bodies of merchants and to present the same to this Board when obtained.

The Board informed by Mr. Pepys of the sudden occasion lately happening, in the interval of their Lordships' late meeting, of supplying one of the Holland's men-of-war who come over to fetch back the Prince of Orange with 2 cables and as many anchors, in the room of so many said to be lost in foul weather, the Dutch Ambassador having engaged to his Majesty to be accountable for the value thereof upon demand; and the same was approved of by the Lords.

The Navy Officers informing the Lords that the Bailiffs of Yarmouth, meeting with difficulty in the execution of a press warrant lately sent them² for the pressing of some particular men, do rather incline to have a general press warrant sent them, without restraining them to this or that particular person; RESOLVED, that though it be unusual to put the trouble of impresting of men upon the civil magistrates of any place, yet, if they voluntarily desire it, it may be granted them.

An order this day signed by the Lords to the Officers of the Navy, in pursuance of another from the Council Table bearing date the 7th of November but not brought to the Admiralty till 2 days since, about the building 5 more of the 30 ships, above the 15 formerly ordered.

Mr. Pepys informed the Board that the Falcon was now returned from Sweden, so as her lieutenant, Lieutenant Haughton, may now be called to an account for the matters whereof their Lordships had lately an accusation brought against him under the hands of Sir Richard Haddock and Captain Mason from the mouth of his late commander, Captain Booth, just before his death. RESOLVED, that his Majesty be moved by Mr. Pepys

¹ MS. 'promissious.'

² See 10th November.

from their Lordships to put the said lieutenant forthwith out of his employment.¹

Freight to be paid for another ship hired for Virginia.

Debate being had touching direction needful to be sent to Sir J[ohn] N[arbrough] how he shall dispose of the slaves and renegadoes taken from the Turks; RESOLVED, that he be authorised to sell the slaves at the first and best market he can, and that his Majesty's pleasure be known touching the disposing of the renegadoes, they being not anywhere a marketable commodity among Christian princes, and therefore must either be hanged, kept for exchange, or delivered up to the respective princes to be punished as they shall think fit. Which last was the method which Sir Thomas Allin says he followed heretofore during the like war.²

A letter being read from Mr. Baylie of Bristol, complaining of the want of money for carrying on the work of the new ship he is building there for his Majesty by contract; Answered by the Officers of the Navy, that he is paid as far as he can claim it by contract, and they do not advise my Lords to pay him faster.

Mr. Pepys acquaints the Board that the late report of the Commissioners of the Customs in the matter of the petition of Mr. Robert Bloom³ and others, owners of the ship *Sarah* of London, for which (being a foreign-built ship unfree) a Turks' pass is desired, having been presented to and debated by my Lords of the Committee of Trade, Mr. Blathwayt⁴ their clerk had signified to him their Lordships' total disapproval of the thing desired, as a thing very [in]convenient and of evil consequence to the navigation of England, by laying open the trade of the Mediterranean to foreign-built ships not made free; And my Lords of this Board do concur with their Lordships therein, directing Mr. Pepys to signify this their denial to the parties soliciting the same.

¹ See 3rd November. Lieutenant Haughton was, however, employed again in 1678.

² Sir Thomas Allin, now the comptroller of the navy, had commanded in the Mediterranean against the Barbary corsairs in 1668, and against Algiers in 1669; see *D. N. B.*, i. 332.

³ See 3rd November.

⁴ Secretary to the committee of trade.

A motion being made in behalf of my Lord Carlisle that the number of his retinue to be victualled by his Majesty in their passage with him to Jamaica may be settled ; ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do inform himself and report to this Board the number formerly allowed my Lord Vaughan on the same occasion.

My Lords being informed that Captain Herbert, Captain Pinn, Captain Willshaw,¹ and the rest of the commanders of the ships now going forth, have severally applied themselves to Mr. Pepys for press warrants, as that without which they declare themselves wholly out of hopes of being able to man their ships ; RESOLVED, that a memorial thereof be presented by Mr. Pepys to the Council Board at its next meeting, in order to their being empowered to supply the commanders with the said warrants.

A petition being read from the officers of Sheerness, complaining of their sufferings through the unwholesomeness of the place, from the want of convenient dwelling-houses for themselves and families there ; AGREED, that for the sake of his Majesty's service, as well as in charity to the poor men, some provision of habitations may be fit to be provided, with an estimate of the charge of providing the same.

Two bailiffs attending, with their petition setting forth that they knew not the relation of Thomas Tidd, shipwright, and William Hall, joiner, to his Majesty's service at Deptford when they lately arrested them, and confessing their error in arresting them without leave, were ORDERED to be discharged.

The like was done in reference to Yarmouth shipwrights lately sent for by the Messenger of the Navy for refusing to attend his Majesty's service at Harwich after being duly prest thereto ; The said shipwrights now acknowledging their error, and offering to repair to and attend upon the said service as they shall be ordered.

My Lord Treasurer was pleased to recommend one Thomas Garland to his Majesty for a purser, by a paper on his behalf put into the hands of Mr. Pepys by my Lord Treasurer ; and the King directing that the same be remembered when there shall be an opportunity for it.

¹ MS. 'Wilshire.'

DECEMBER 8, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Lord Ossory; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer; Master of the Ordnance. Navy Officers attending.]

A letter being this day read from the Officers of the Navy accompanying the new draught of the victualling contract, wherein two or three being left with blanks, as not being yet th[o]roughly agreed to by the new victuallers, Mr. Brett, Mr. Vincent, and Mr. Parsons, the said victuallers were called in, and the matters in difference being opened and debated, adjusted in the following resolutions on his Majesty's part:—First, that the £60,000 credit provided for in the contract shall be demanded from them but once in a year, and that the King's demanding that credit or any part thereof shall oblige him to take off from them within the year the whole of the declaration or declarations which shall happen to be made within the year, as also their staple,¹ and to make good their payments to them for their said declaration and staple according to contract as if no such credit or any part thereof had been demanded from them, the intent of this credit being declared by his Majesty and my Lords to be for the securing of his Majesty of an effectual supply of victuals or money upon any occasion of his Majesty's (whereof he only to be judge) calling for the same over and above his declarations and staple. Upon which being agreed to on his Majesty's part, they do also on theirs submit to what they had before made difficulty with the Officers of the Navy to do, Namely, to supply his Majesty with the said credit, either in whole or in part, by whatever proportions, small or great, and at whatever times within the year, his Majesty shall think fit. Secondly, that wherever his Majesty shall have any of his men-of-war lying in any foreign port within the Mediterranean from whence they have any provisions in preparing for the service of his Majesty at Tangier, they shall have the benefit of the said ships' convoy, and

¹ Stock.

his Majesty be accountable for any loss they shall sustain either by the refusal or defect of the said convoy ; Provided, that this be extended no further than where the said man- or men-of-war shall, by the orders they were then in execution of, be bound to or towards Tangier without obliging his Majesty's victualling-vessels after the men-of-war are ready to sail or to give convoy to, or the King's being accountable for the safety of the said vessels further than by their aforesaid orders the said men-of-war shall be at liberty to go towards Tangier without respect to the said victualling-vessels ; His Majesty further obliging himself strictly to give convoy to all the victualling-ships that shall be by them sent to Lisbon from England and to Tangier from England or Cadiz, or to make good to them whatever loss they shall sustain in either of those cases from the want or insufficiency of the said convoy. Thirdly, that the said victuallers shall be allowed interest and consideration after the rate of 8 per cent. from the time that the payments upon the credit of the £60,000 shall fail to be made good to them after the time that by contract the said payments ought to be made them.

After which it being insisted upon by them for some time, that they might have tallies put into their hands to the full value of the credit demanded, at the time when the same should be demanded, to become payable at the times when by contract they are to receive their several payments ; it was agreed on their part to desert from ¹ that their claim, and that they would submit their satisfaction in their funds for payment wholly to the direction of my Lord Treasurer.

A motion being then made by the said victuallers, that in order to the speedy knowing what provision they are to make of new cask for the enabling them to carry on the King's service, they may without loss of time understand what quantity of those goods they shall be obliged to take off from Sir D. Gauden, The Officers of the Navy were directed to bring the same to as speedy determination with Sir D. Gauden as may be, the motion of these gentlemen in this matter being judged reasonable.

¹ In the legal sense of 'relinquish.'

Lastly, Mr. Pepys reporting to his Majesty and my Lords that he had by their command communicated to these gentlemen Sir Robert Southwell's petition relating to the port of Kinsale,¹ and opening at large by their order again at this time Sir Robert Southwell's case,—his father's ancient merits, and not only the due compliance at all times given to his Majesty's occasions at that port both by his father and himself but an obligation in writing which these very gentlemen had voluntarily entered into to the satisfaction of Sir Robert Southwell the last year when they were first bidding for the victualling of the navy (which obligation was produced and read),—the victuallers seem to make great difficulty of allowing any consideration to be given to Sir Robert Southwell, forasmuch as that they were contractors for the whole victualling of the navy, besides that the price at which Sir D. Gauden victualled the navy when they entered into that obligation was greater than they now undertake it at from his Majesty, and that in that regard Kinsale is the principal port where they can depend upon being gainers at. To which it being in reply answered by Mr. Pepys on behalf of Sir Robert Southwell, First, That though Sir Denis Gauden had a greater price than these gentlemen are now to serve at, yet their obligation was entered into without any condition, or supposition of their coming into victualling at any certain, much less at Sir D. Gauden's, price; Secondly, That as to their insisting upon being contractors for the whole, they have as much reason to submit to the parting with Kinsale as they do with that of the Mediterranean, and more, by how much no failure has been complained of in reference to the former, as hath been to the latter. As also that Sir D. Gauden did no more exercise the victualling of the former than he did that of the latter, and these gentlemen in their original proposal do offer to contract for the whole upon the same terms that Sir Denis Gauden and partners held it, saving in that of the price. Upon which his Majesty and my Lords being no less unwilling to impose anything upon these gentlemen to the interrupting of their general contract, which the King and their Lordships are upon Saturday's considerations become very earnest to have

¹ See 3rd November.

dispatched, than to offer any hardship upon Sir Robert Southwell, Were pleased to ORDER that the present draught of the victualling contract should be perfected by the Officers of the Navy with these gentlemen in the points this day determined in against the next meeting of the Council, so as to be fitted for the approbation of his Majesty there at that time, And to re-commit it back to Mr. Pepys to bring it to an amicable accommodation between Sir Robert Southwell and them, the Lords themselves recommending it to them to consider and do what may be reasonable for them to grant to Sir Robert Southwell's pretensions herein.

A report read from the Officers of the Navy and approved of, touching the distribution of the victualling declaration of the ensuing year to the several ports, Referring the naming of the ports in the Mediterranean to a hearing from Sir John Narbrough, and reserving the proportion by them proposed to be made good by money for answering the bills that shall be drawn from abroad for short allowance and on other occasions relating to victualling.

This being done, Mr. Pepys proceeded to the informing his Majesty and my Lords that, pursuant to their Lordships' command at their last meeting, the Officers of the Navy had, on their instance, a special conference at their Office with several of the principal commanders of the fleet (and himself), viz.,

The Officers of the Navy

Sir Thomas Allin ¹
 Sir John Tippetts ²
 Sir Richard Haddock ³
 Sir Anthony Deane ⁴
 Mr. [Hayter ?] ⁵

Commanders of the Fleet

Mr. Legge ⁶
 Captain Herbert ⁷
 Sir Roger Strickland
 Captain Gunman
 Captain Davies
 Sir John Berry
 Captain Wetwang
 Captain Willshaw
 Captain Sanderson

¹ Comptroller of the navy.

² Surveyor of the navy.

³ A commissioner of the navy.

⁴ Comptroller of the victualling.

⁵ Joint clerk of the acts.

⁶ Afterwards Lord Dartmouth.

⁷ Afterwards Earl of Torrington.

Where the whole business of the project touching lieutenants, tendered to their Lordships the last day, was particularly debated and th[o]roughly agreed to by them, with the more especial regard to that one article of obliging all persons pretending to lieutenantships to perform the duty of an ordinary midshipman for one year, and that they were not only (as many as for other occasions could be) present to declare their concurrence therein, and among them some gentlemen as well as tarpaulins (upon which they were called in) and were, with the Officers of the Navy, as follows, viz.,

Sir Thomas Allin	Mr. Legge
Sir John Werden ¹	Captain Herbert
Sir John Tippetts	Sir Roger Strickland
Sir Richard Haddock	Sir John Berry
Sir Anthony Deane	Captain Wetwang
Mr. Hayter	Captain Gunman
	Captain Sanderson
	Captain Willshaw

but that their Lordships might be masters of their reasons for this their opinion, and that they might be satisfied that the gentlemen themselves among the said commanders did in particular concur with the rest in this advice about the midshipmanship, they had desired Mr. Legge to digest in writing the arguments inducing him thereto, which Mr. Legge upon demand did at the same time present to their Lordships, and were upon reading so convincing, that not one word was afterwards urged in the opposition to what was propounded, saving this question,—whether he did ever perform one year's midshipmanship before he pretended to the office of lieutenant? To which he answering *No*, but that it had cost him many an aching head and heart since to make up the want of it, that point was unanimously RESOLVED on, that whoever hereafter would be thought capable of being a lieutenant should, among his other qualifications, be able to shew that he had actually served one year and done the duty of an ordinary midshipman; which being agreed to, and what they now proposed in con-

¹ Commissioner extraordinary: MS. 'Worden.'

formity to the late resolution of the Lords touching the joining of one flag-officer and one half-pay commander with one Officer of the Navy who has been a commander in the examinations of lieutenants, the whole of the project was this day confirmed, with this only explanation, that the obligation of serving one year as midshipman shall [not]¹ extend to such as have at this day served three years at sea as volunteers and are in every other respect qualified according to this establishment saving in that of having been a midshipman, and with some directions that provisions be made for the direction of admirals and commanders-in-chief of squadrons how to proceed in the examining of persons whom they shall have occasion of advancing to the office of lieutenant at sea. Which was recommended to Mr. Pepys to see done against the next meeting.

After which, notice being taken by him of the disagreement which would be found in this establishment, which makes a man capable of being a lieutenant in 3 years, with the general instructions to commanders, which forbid the allowing the wages of an able seaman to any who hath not served 5 years to the sea, and midshipman's pay to any that has not served 7; And it being moreover observed that no regard is at any time had to that limitation in the captain's instructions, but men are paid by their abilities, as their officers shall upon their experience rate them, without any respect had to their age, His Majesty and my Lords thought it incongruous as well as useless that this restraint should remain as a snare to commanders, and did therefore RESOLVE, that the said article in the commanders' instructions should for the future be void, and not insisted upon for execution.

Next, Mr. Pepys tendering to his Majesty and the Board a draught of resolutions to be passed relating to the business of chaplains of ships, and pursuant to what was heretofore² debated thereon at this Board for preventing the total want of chaplains in some ships and the scandalous choice of them complained of in others,

¹ See *Naval Precedents* (*Pepysian MSS.*, No. 2867), p. 241, where the word 'not' occurs in the regulations as finally proved.

² See p. 400 above.

as also for the informing as well my Lords the Bishops who are to be concerned in their examination how far they are to proceed in the providing, and the commanders of ships how far they are abridged of their ancient unaccountable privilege of choosing their own chaplains; Which proposal was also declared to be fully consonant to the purposes of his Majesty and my Lords heretofore expressed therein, with this only alteration, that where it was provided that a captain should be entirely at liberty to choose any man for his chaplain who has been ever once approved of as such by either of my Lords the Bishops, it should now be limited so as that an approval of the Bishops shall remain in force but three years, and there to cease till it shall be renewed by the Bishops in a fresh examination.¹

DECEMBER 15, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Lord Ossory; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Master of the Ordnance. Navy Officers attending.]

A memorial being this day put in on behalf of his Royal Highness by one of the officers of the post-house, praying that the boats and men employed in carrying of letters between the Isle of Wight² and Southampton may be exempted from pressing, the same was agreed to, viz., for two boats and 2 men on each, provided that the men may be expressly named in their protections, or at least the boats distinguished from all other boats by some peculiar marks to be established thereon.

The projects lately so much debated and agreed upon about lieutenants and chaplains being now finished and read, the same were now finally approved, the latter signed, and the former ordered to be speedily engrossed for signing.

A letter read from the Officers of the Ordnance, giving an account of the stores last sent and now going from their Office to the fleet to the Straits.

Mr. Pepys giving an account that the number of the

¹ On this establishment for chaplains, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 206.

² MS. 'Isle of Weight.'

retinue victualled by his Majesty for my Lord Vaughan¹ were 100, and were ordered him in obedience to his Majesty's pleasure signified then to Mr. Pepys from Newmarket by Sir John Werden,² without any account expressed of the inducements leading his Majesty to the allowing so great a number, and it being remembered that occasion was taken after the arrival of my Lord Vaughan at Jamaica of raising much discourse to the reproach of his Lordship touching the dishonourable use made by him of the liberty granted him by his Majesty of carrying so many under the name of his retinue but were passengers carried over for his profit in the island; RESOLVED, and at the same time communicated to Mr. Poole, his secretary, then attending, that upon my Lord Carlisle's giving in a list of the names of his retinue designed to be carried over with him as his particular family, order should be granted for the victualling thereof and no more.

RESOLVED, that the complements of men for the Jersey and Hunter for their present intended voyage to Jamaica shall be according to the establishment for³ time of war in foreign service.

A letter read, bearing date the 10th November at Cadiz, from Sir William Poole, giving an account of his proceedings from Newfoundland thither, and that those of that fishing-fleet to have happened to miscarry by the Turks were none of those who would stay to come along with him but of those only who would not.

A fresh letter read from Sir John Kempthorne, giving an account of the danger he apprehends from the late storms, of the seas breaking over the neck of land near Blockhouse Point on Gosper side,⁴ to the spoiling the harbour of Portsmouth, about which he promises a more particular hearing and report.

A letter read of the 26th of October from Sir J[ohn] N[arbrough], and in answer thereto RESOLVED, First, that as to the business of the restitution to be insisted upon

¹ See p. 539 above.

² MS. 'Worden.' Sir John Werden was secretary to James, Duke of York, at that time lord high admiral (*D. N. B.*, lx. 295).

³ MS. 'from.'

⁴ *I.e.*, on the Gosport side of the harbour.

by him at Algier, as also his hanging or otherwise disposing of the renegadoes he has or shall take, wherein his Majesty is advised by my Lords to leave him to do as he shall find most for his Majesty's service, and, lastly, his being at liberty to make use of any of the Spanish ports, and particularly Port Mahon,¹ he be referred to what directions he shall receive immediately from his Majesty. Second, that instead of Plymouth, which Sir J. N. proposes may be kept always full-stored for the supplying the ships he shall send thither, as being nearer his principal intended station of the Straits' mouth than Livorne, stores of all sorts as well as provisioning, according to his Majesty's late resolution, be lodged at Lisbon, and that the O[fficers of the] N[avy] be authorised to provide the same accordingly, and Sir J. N. advertised of it. Thirdly, that the Officers of the N[avy] do compute what further supply of money may be fit to be sent, and to take care for the sending of the same to him. Fourthly, that his Majesty's commissionating Mr. She[e]re[s] to superintend by his advice and assistance the business of his fleet at Tangier, according to Sir J. N.'s repeated desire, be notified to him.

Mr. Pepys communicating to his Majesty and my Lords an observation in a late letter from Mr. Sheere[s] to him touching a defect which Mr. Sheere[s] thinks very considerable in our present galley-frigates, namely, that by their want of some small guns between decks we have no means of annoying the Algerines after they are beaten down between decks, as in the last instance of our boarding and taking the Golden Marigold; the same was admitted by his Majesty and the Officers of the Navy, and particularly Sir Anthony Deane, for a defect very fit and that may be remedied, and referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider of providing for remedying the same in the 2 new ones now going to be built.

A duplicate of so much of the late general establishment of men and guns as relates to the guns only, being transcribed fair for the use of the Ordnance and presented to his Majesty and my Lords, the same was signed, the Master of the Ordnance being present and joining in the signing thereof.

¹ MS. 'Portemahone.'

Memorandum only, that the Master of the Ordnance observing that it was impossible that the said establishment as to guns be strictly put in execution, in that the Office of the Ordnance cannot gun his Majesty's ships otherwise than as the natures and weights of the guns his Majesty is at present master of will admit, It was answered that the same was admitted, and that the intent of this establishment as to guns is to shew what by the burthen, shape, strength, number of ports, and other circumstances, each ship is capable of bearing, and are therefore to be supplied with and have their respective complements of men adjusted to, and which therefore the Officers of the Ordnance are to comply with as far as the number and natures of the guns with their respective weights which his Majesty either now or at any time hereafter shall have or will admit, It not being expected further ; And moreover that as to the gunning of the *Rupert*, about which there is at this day some particular dispute, the guns of the *Harwich*, which lie at Portsmouth where she is, may be ordered to her, they answering strictly the numbers, natures, and weights of what are assigned by the establishment to the *Rupert*, and the *Harwich* to be hereafter supplied by the *Rupert*'s.

Upon a report read from the Officers of the Navy ; ORDERED, that 2 years of the 3 said to be in arrear to the *Guarland* of her wages, viz., to so many of her men as have served in her so long, be paid before her going to the coast of Ireland.

Mr. Pepys reads a letter from Sir Nathaniel Herne to him, signifying that he, with some other merchants, were, in obedience to his Majesty's and their Lordships' commands, digesting a method of convoys to answer the occasions of the several trades concerned during the Algereen war.

My Lord Treasurer desires to have one view prepared for him of the charge of the next year according to the present declaration, and the other heads of expense we can now take any measure of.

A petition from the owners of the *Johanna* of Dartmouth that she may be made free.

Mr. Pepys acquaints my Lords that upon complaints

exhibited by the captain and lieutenant of the Sweepstakes against one another reciprocally in matters very criminal, his Majesty has been pleased to determine upon sending the *Guarland* to take her place upon the coast of Ireland, and to call her home in order to their answering to one another's accusations at a court-martial.

A reference from the Council Table being read upon the petition of Thomas Gardiner, late commander of the *Adam and Eve*, employed at Virginia ; it was RESOLVED that it be reported that his claim on the Admiralty is already answered by an order passed some time since for the payment of freight, and that as regards his land-service their Lordships can make no report.

Enquiry to be made in the River for a vessel brought in by a Tetuan brigantine, and sent hither to look out its owners by Consul Martin at Algiers.

Lord Inchiquin's proposals about boats at Tangier referred to another meeting.

A bill brought of £100 for a couple of silk flags provided as an expedient for the service of the Prince and Princess of Orange designing to go over to Holland in several¹ yachts, the same consisting (by advice of Sir William Dugdale,² Garter King-at-Arms) of the arms of Orange and England with a title and labels impaled, supported with a lion of Orange of one side and the English on the other side, and distinguished by the Prince's being drawn within a garter and her Highness's without, and the whole calculated to prevent the precedent of having the flags ordinarily used by his Majesty's fleets applied to any other use than what they are ordained for, or more union-flags than one (which Sir John Holmes now bears in the *Mountagu*) borne at once together ; RESOLVED, that the said bill be referred to Sir William Dugdale to give his opinion touching the reasonableness thereof, the same being not made in the manner used in the navy, but painted upon crimson silk with the metals of gold and silver laid improper.³

¹ Separate.

² The compiler of Dugdale's *Monasticon* ; see *D. N. B.*, xvi. 136.

³ Metal upon metal was a violation of a rule of heraldry.

A petition being read of one John Nicholls, charging John Kitfeild, master of the *Peter*, merchantman, with the abusing him and the rest of the ship's company with a false pass, which the said Kitfeild asserts his having obtained by the means of one Briggs, and paid a great sum of money for the same; RESOLVED, that as well the said petitioner as the said Kitfeild and Briggs be ordered to attend their Lordships this day sennight.

The Lords, taking notice to the Officers of the Navy of their not having for some weeks past presented them with the expected account of the advance made upon the new ships, directed them not to fail of bringing the same the next week.

ORDERED, that a supply of victuals be sent away with all speed to the *Constant Warwick*, employed at the Barbadoes.

Captain Herbert's desire being communicated to the Lords for his being supplied with some men out of the ordinary at Portsmouth, and the advice of the Officers of the Navy being asked therein, they unanimously answered that should that practice be introduced, they should not be able to man the ordinary, nor consequently undertake for the safety of the King's ships there.

The Navy Officers to give reasonable satisfaction to Thomas Arnold, master of the ship *Henry and Anne*, for the use of his round-house for the accommodation of Colonel Jeffreys in his voyage to Virginia.

The petition of one Thomas Hardwick, designed chaplain of the *Jersey*, praying an advance of £15 upon account of his future pay for enabling him to fit himself for the voyage, being read, was rejected, as being more than a year's pay from his Majesty amounts to, and a matter not to be granted to one without a resolution of admitting the like from all.

The petition of Belinda¹ Lynn being read, praying an allowance to be made her, as executrix of Captain Steele, of supernumeraries by him borne upon the *John of Dover* as a wool-catcher,² upon terms of his Majesty's allowing victuals and wages for 10 men, was rejected, the said supernumeraries being borne without order,

¹ MS. 'Bellindia.'

² See p. 489 above and note 2.

£350 being confessed to have been allowed her by the Commissioners for Prizes upon the score of this vessel ; The advantage made thereof to his Majesty not appearing to my Lords, and lastly that advantage (if any was) not being applied to the service of the navy and therefore the extraordinary charge thereof not to be borne by the Treasurer of the Navy.

A petition of Thomas Airy¹ being read, shewing his long services and present distresses, and praying the present payment of a parcel of tickets of 1665-66 to the value of about £50 ; RESOLVED, that the same be referred to their course of payment, as other tickets in the like conditions are.

DECEMBER 16, 1677

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty for his pleasure in some points contained in Sir John Narbrough's letter of the 26th October last, and the said letter being read, RESOLVED,

First, that his Majesty would not depart from anything of the restitution which he has already by his instructions to Sir John Narbrough required him to insist upon for the injuries by them done us before the first act of hostility on our side, What has been done since being according to the general practice of nations to be reciprocally remitted ; And that this be communicated to him from the King by Mr. Secretary Coventry.

Secondly, that Sir J. N. be left at liberty to hang or otherwise to dispose of the renegadoes he takes from the Algereenes, as he shall judge meet for his Majesty's service.

Third, that he sends a particular account of the 3 prizes he has already taken, in order to the judging the value of their repair against the next summer's service, and that he be directed to consider of the most proper place for his laying them up at.

¹ *Margin* : ' Avery.'

Fourth, that the restraint be taken off by which he was cautioned against his coming in to any Spanish ports, and particularly that of Port Mahon.

Fifth, that he is not to expect Plymouth being made a place of resort for the King's ships to refit from the Straits' mouth (though it may be allowed better than Livorne), Lisbon being nearer and better than both, where magazines of stores and provisions are designed to be lodged.

Sixth, that he be directed to send hither the names of the commanders he has appointed to the Turkish prizes, in order to their being approved of as he desires.

DECEMBER 24, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Lord Ossory; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Chancellor of the Exchequer; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Master of the Ordnance. Navy Officers attending.]

A report read from the Officers [of the] N[avy] touching the present state of the new ships now in building and the several degrees of their respective advancements, Together with the several quantities of materials hitherto bought, and what has been served in, and what workmen of each kind are at this day employed upon the said new works in each yard. Touching which, notice being taken that the works at Chatham seem to be much less in forwardness than in any of the other yards, with a supposition that the same might arise from Mr. Pett the master-builder's late and present inabilities by sickness personally to attend the same; It was answered by the Officers of the Navy that the master-shipwright's assistant and foreman had the charge and do take care of the works there, in the master-builder's absence, by his draughts and directions, And that the greatest hindrance to those works has arisen from the difficulty of finding materials, and principally from the late unseasonableness of the weather and the ways of bringing of it in.

A paper being at the same time presented to the

Board by the Lord Privy Seal, containing an account of about 2000 oak-trees growing at Picton¹ in Pembroke-shire, with 1400 more at Cloggyrone² in Carnarvonshire, said to be well-grown and fit for building of ships, which Sir Erasmus Philipps³ is owner of and offers them to his Majesty to sale; RESOLVED, that the said paper be transmitted to the O[fficers of the] N[avy], and direction to be given by my Lord Privy Seal to the owner of the said trees to repair⁴ to the said Officers, who will treat with him for them as they shall find his terms and all other circumstances, of place, time, etc., to answer his Majesty's service.

The Consul at Algiers will take care for the liberation of Mr. Benjamin Gauden.⁵

A report read from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] touching Robert Chambers, late master [of the] Dragon, shewing that he doth come within the rules lately provided for the relief of superannuated officers,⁶ and that besides his faithfulness to the King, certified by Sir Roger Strickland,⁷ he was lately discharged by the said Sir Roger upon the score of his age only (which is said to be nigh seventy); RESOLVED, that he be admitted into the number of superannuated and have the benefit of the said establishment.

A letter being read of the 18th instant from Sir John Kempthorne, giving a fresh account⁸ of a survey by him lately taken of the neck of land at Blockhouse Point, upon which it is found that the sea has for some time been gaining, and that in time (though not suddenly) it may endanger its making a passage through that neck to the great prejudice of the harbour; It was noted that Sir Bernard de Gomme,⁹ the King's engineer, was going down to Portsmouth, and would make it one of his businesses to consider on that place and give his opinion therein.

¹ MS. 'Pickton.' Picton Castle is four miles S.E. of Haverfordwest.

² Possibly Clogwyn, on Snowdon.

³ This family owned Picton Castle; see *D. N. B.*, xlv. 169.

⁴ MS. 'to to repaire.'

⁵ See 24th November.

⁶ 6th December 1672; see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 148.

⁷ Formerly commander of the Dragon.

⁸ See 15th December.

⁹ See *D. N. B.*, xxii. 103.

A report from the Officers of the Navy of the 21st instant was read, touching the business, so long depending,¹ of Ursula Newell² complaining of her being bereft of the wages of her husband, Antony Newell,³ who served in the Chestnut pink and died in the East Indies, by its being paid to a wrong person by Sir Thomas Littleton.⁴ In which, upon the matter being largely opened, the said Officers give it as their opinion that the said widow has no ground of pretence to satisfaction for the same either from the King or the said Officers of the N[avy], and therein his Majesty and my Lords agreed with them; Adding only that, if the widow desires it, a letter shall be writ, according to their advice, to Mr. Young mentioned in the said report and said to be now in the East Indies, demanding a further account from him of the ground of his having received from the King the said Newell's³ wages, in order to the indemnifying his Majesty against any claim which the said widow may have to make thereto.

A petition being read from Samuel Cooper, agent for the late Commissioners for Sick and Wounded Seamen for the Port of London, praying several things relating to that affair, wherein he pretends to have received very hard usage in reference to his payments and his own arrear of wages, And it being remembered that a former petition⁵ from the said Cooper of the same or the like tenor was referred from this Board to the said Commissioners for Sick and Wounded; RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys do recollect what was formerly done in the case of the petitioner, and if it appear that the said Commissioners are in arrear to the report required from them, to call upon them for the said report, and to put into their hand this present petition in order to their giving their Lordships satisfaction therein.

A petition being read from one Captain Battison, master of a merchantman lately cast away upon Deal beach, praying restitution of what has been saved of the wreck of his ship and goods, some whereof he pretends to have been unduly sold by Mr. Cooke, an officer of the

¹ See p. 465 above.

² MS. 'Ursilla Nuell.'

⁴ A former victualling contractor.

³ MS. 'Nuell.'

⁵ See p. 375 above.

customs at Deal; It was considered that the matter of the petition lay within the cognisance of the Lord Warden,¹ and that therefore the petition should be put into the hands of one of the Secretaries of State for the receiving his Majesty's pleasure therein.

His Majesty being moved by Mr. Pepys for his pleasure to be signified touching the providing of a hulk for the service of his ships in the Straits; His Majesty did, with the advice of my Lords, conclude that a vessel should be speedily looked out and bought for that purpose by the Officers of the N[avy], to be employed in the carrying of what stores should be found necessary to be sent to Sir John N[orbroock], and to be afterwards converted into a hulk at such a place as he shall design her being employed at.

The Master² of the Ordnance being called upon for an account of what was doing at the Office of the Ordnance in reference to the supplying the King in the Straits, It was answered by him that one ship of stores was now going away.

His Majesty and my Lords taking into consideration the dispatching away my Lord Carlisle, were pleased to come to these 3 resolutions containing answers to the points wherein my Lord (now present) desires satisfaction in from this Board :—First, That the King will not admit of my Lord Vaughan's allowance of 100 passengers³ to be a precedent to my Lord of Carlisle, it appearing that the same was procured from his Majesty at Newmarket and signified hither without any reasons remaining to shew the grounds of his Majesty's being induced thereto, and that therefore it would be insisted upon that my Lord Carlisle should give in the names of his retinue, be they more or less, which his Majesty is willing to give passage to, it appearing that they are really of his retinue; which his Lordship acquiesced in, bespeaking only an allowance of 3 northern malefactors which he designed to carry with him as being condemned to be transported, and a few artificers to be employed on public works at Jamaica. Second, That the Officers of the Navy should agree for 240 tons stowage for the carrying of the stores, goods,

¹ Of the Cinque Ports.

² MS. 'matter.'

³ See 15th December.

and luggage, public and private, which his Lordship calculated he should have of all sorts to carry with him upon a merchant-ship the Carlisle, proposed by his Lordship. Third, That the number of barrels of powder to be sent along with him be 250, and the same committed to the Master of the Ordnance, then present, to proceed in.

Mr. Pepys putting his Majesty in mind that the place of one of the master attendants¹ at Chatham, void by the death of Mr. Lately, is not yet filled, and proposing it, upon advice had with the O[fficers of the] N[avy] and Mr. Kirk, the surviving master, that for preventing the disagreements frequently happening (and which have often done so in the present case) between two persons equally entrusted in the whole execution of the same office, that it may be better for his Majesty's service that there may be only his assistant under his direction, as the master-shipwright's is, with wages some degree less than the master's, and yet such as, with consideration to the constancy and quietness of his employment and having of a house rent-free, with a reasonable expectation of succeeding to the mastership, may be a promotion to the boatswain of a 1st-rate ship, or any other who is not better provided for, to become an assistant to the master attendant; The same was upon a full debate and the general concurrence of the Officers [of the] N[avy] universally agreed on, and RESOLVED to be put in execution; with direction to Mr. Pepys to take care that the same be accordingly done, and the opinion of the Officers of the Navy demanded whether, upon consideration had of the present growth of his Majesty's action at Portsmouth and the laying up of so many of the great ships there, it may not be as reasonable to have the same provision made for the assistance of the master attendants¹ of that yard.

At the desire of Captain Herbert, his Majesty is pleased to give leave that the gunner of the Dragon, which is now laid up, with great repairs to be done to her, may be at liberty to execute his place by a deputy during her so lying in the harbour, while himself goes along with Captain Herbert in the service of his Majesty in the Rupert.

¹ See the minute of 2nd October, which makes this plural 'masters attendant.'

Mr. Pepys proposing to consideration some particulars tendered to that purpose by the Lord Inchiquin, as also the bringing to some resolution touching the article in the commanders' instructions lately debated¹ about searching of foreign ships for, and taking out of, his Majesty's subjects serving therein; the same were respite to another meeting to be had on Thursday next, and RESOLVED, that from henceforward Thursdays be the days of the public meetings of the Admiralty till further order.

DECEMBER 27, 1677

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Master of the Ordnance. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Pepys producing an extract of a letter of the 18th instant from Rouen² to a merchant in England in these words, viz., *Monsieur de Bellizany, premier commis de Monsieur Colbert, a écrit ici qu'il fallait avertir marchands de retirer leur effets de Tangier, et que le Roi d'Angleterre nous voulait declarer la guerre*; ³ His Majesty and my Lords were led to the debate of the importance it is to his Majesty's garrison at Tangier that his Majesty's resolution should be publicly known of keeping inviolably the freedom of that port, whatsoever be the issue of affairs between him and the King of France.⁴ And thereupon it was RESOLVED, that some public declaration thereof should be forthwith made to the Governor there for the information of the merchants, and the putting the same in execution committed to Mr. Secretary Coventry, to be sent thither, both by land and by the

¹ See 1st December.

² MS. 'Roven.'

³ MS. '*Monsieur de Bellizany, premier comis de Monsieur Colbert, a escrit Jcy qu'il falloit avertir merchandis de retirer luer effects de Tangier, et que le Roy d'Angleteen nous voloit declarerl a gueere.*'

⁴ A treaty of alliance with the Dutch was now about to be signed, and was actually signed on 30th December, with the object of forcing terms of peace upon France and Spain.

Hereographer,¹ whose sailing instructions will go away this night.

His Majesty taking into his final debate the business of the 36th article of the commanders' instructions, by which they are directed to send on board all foreign ships, to see for and take forth all his Majesty's subjects found serving therein contrary to his proclamation, compelling the master² or commander of the said foreign ship to pay his Majesty's said subjects all their wages; It was in the first place observed that this compelling of them to pay wages is new, and not only impracticable where the master or commander has not money wherewith to do it (as it often falls out) but unreasonable with respect to the master, who may have just claims against the seamen in case of damage, etc., at the port of unloading, especially where a seaman shall have voluntarily offered and, it may be, necessarily put himself for subsistence into the service of the said master (as it also may often happen³), but to the seaman himself, who instead of being deterred⁴ from going into foreign service shall be tempted to it, and do misbehave himself therein also by knowing that upon meeting with any of his Majesty's ships either in port or at sea and discovering himself, he shall be freed from his present service without forfeiting of his wages and have his passage home free, and it may be have wages upon the King's ships. And thereupon it was concluded, that for the future this part of the article, about compelling the payment of wages, should be wholly laid aside by expunging the same. After which the business in general of searching of ships of foreigners⁵ without distinction, whether merchantmen or men-of-war, was taken into consideration, and the same not only proved to be very ancient in the practice of it, both by the memory of Mr. Vice-Chamberlain,⁶ Sir Thomas Allin,⁷ and others of longest experience in the navy, but by papers lately produced by Mr. Secretary

¹ Presumably a hired ship.

² MS. 'matter.'

³ MS. 'happy.'

⁴ The sense is evidently 'deterred.'

⁵ MS. 'forrengers.'

⁶ Sir George Carteret had been bred at sea from a boy, and his first commission as lieutenant is dated 1632 (*D. N. B.*, ix. 208).

⁷ See *D. N. B.*, i. 332.

Williamson out of the Paper Office, but grounded upon the undoubtable right of his Majesty of commanding and restraining the service of all his subjects ; And thereupon it was RESOLVED, that it would be too great a departure of his Majesty's from his said right to cause any alteration to be made in that part of the said article, and that therefore the printed article should remain in that particular to run in the terms it now doth. But forasmuch as exception has been already made thereto by the Dutch Ambassador upon occasion of some proceedings upon it by Sir Robert Robinson upon a man-of-war of the States in the port of Cadiz, and many more complaints may¹ (though few hitherto have) arise in case the execution of that article should come into the hand of a capricious or indiscreet commander, to the offence not only of the prince to whom the ship appertains but him within whose port the same shall happen to be acted, even to the rendering the King little less than a common enemy and exposing his honour to a hazard where it shall be denied by one too strong to be compelled, especially when it should be remembered that though the King has a right to the service of his subject wherever he is, though he pretends not to a dominion of the sea but within his own limits, nor to the searching the ships of foreign princes even there, otherwise than as the said search may consist with his treaties with the said princes ; It was RESOLVED, that though the said article doth in this particular remain as it is, commanders be directed by a private article to be discreet in the execution of it in foreign merchantmen, and that as to men-of-war they only make use of all the means they can, without using any force, to inform themselves fairly of the number and names of any of his Majesty's subjects serving on board them, and if denied the same upon a fair demand to report to my Lords of the Admiralty the names of the said persons, commanders, and ships, in order to his Majesty's proceeding to the demanding his said subjects, and satisfaction for their being so detained, as he shall see fit ; And Mr. Pepys was directed to prepare the draught of such a private article for his

¹ MS. 'made.'

Majesty[’s] and their Lordships’ approval, the answering of the said Dutch Ambassador’s memorial being referred to the Commissioners for Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Pepys presenting to the Board some proposals directed to him this morning, without any name, for the building of six 3rd-rate ships by contract, the reading thereof was respited until the proposers should make themselves known by subscribing the same, which Mr. Pepys was accordingly directed to demand of them who shall appear to look after it. *Memorandum*, That his Majesty, casting his eye over it, observed that they demand two years from June next to finish the said six ships in, and rated his hopes, if material can anyways be had, of despatching them sooner as well as better in his own yards; Further adding, that though he be still of opinion that the great ships be all built by his own builders, yet forasmuch as we are at this day and shall daily find ourselves more and more in want of 4th and 5th-rate ships for convoys and cruisers, it might be very advisable to try at what rates, where, and how soon we may have some new ships of those rates built and old ones repaired (particularly the Adventure) by contract. It was referred to the Officers of the Navy to consider and report what may be done therein; And RESOLVED also, that the Old James, which now fills a dock which will be wanting for other services requiring present dispatch, be with all speed brought out of the said dock and put forth to be rebuilt by contract, with all the caution that may be for its well doing, My Lord Treasurer desiring that he may be first consulted with about the moneys that will be necessary for the performance of these works.

A letter from the Officers of the Navy of the 26th instant being read, giving an account of Mr. Pett of Woolwich’s demanding £9 per ton and Sir Anthony Deane £8 5s. per ton for the two galleys designed to be built by them by contract for his Majesty, whereas Mr. Castle offers to build one at £8 per ton according to the Charles’s proportion¹; His Majesty and my Lords were pleased, upon consideration had that the proportions of the Charles are in the said letter reported to be

¹ The Charles was one of the two galley-frigates built in 1676 for use against the Turks (see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 228).

undetermined, and that the difference of benefit which the said vessels may be reasonably expected to receive from their being built by those hands who built the former, above the difference of 5s. per ton, to determine upon Sir Anthony Deane's building one at the price he propounds, and which, being present, he finally declared he could not take under, And that Mr. Pett should build the other if he would condescend to Sir Anthony Deane's price, or if not, that Mr. Castle should build it at his. And debate being also had touching what was lately proposed by Mr. Sheere[s] at Tangier about providing for more guns between decks for these galley-frigates, his Majesty was satisfied that the same could neither be done without interruption to the oars, nor would be very useful if it could be done; And therefore ORDERED, that the said proposals should be laid aside and the resolution lately taken therein ¹ revoked.

JANUARY 3, 1677-8

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Master of the Ordnance; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Consideration being had of the inconveniencies which have frequently been met with from the want of masters upon fireships in case of commanders knocked on ² the head, there being at the same time no lieutenants allowed; It was AGREED, with the advice of the Officers of the Navy attending, that for the time to come masters should be allowed in the establishment of the navy upon fireships as they are ³ upon ships of the 5th-rate.

Consideration being also had of the improving as much as may be his Majesty's Mathematical Foundation in Christ's Hospital, and particular notice being taken of the importance of having a more settled nursery of pilots for the River and Channel than what now is; It was proposed by his Majesty, that some method might be digested, with the advice of the Officers of the

¹ See 15th December.

² MS. 'in.'

³ MS. 'as there.'

Navy and Governors of that Hospital together with the Brethren of the Trinity House, for the settling a breed of pilots out of the King's mathematical boys, to be constantly borne upon his yachts, and there kept to that particular practice of observing the depths of water in all the places the yachts are employed in and passed through, with the shifting of the sands, and what else appertains to the perfecting of a good pilot.

It was also recommended to Mr. Pepys, together with the Officers of the Navy, to consider how far the practice might be introduced in England, suitable to what is said to be used in foreign parts, of obliging strangers to make use of our pilots for the bringing them in and carrying them out of this River by a duty to be imposed on them for the same, whether they make use of our pilots or no ; there seeming nothing more deficient in the navy of England than a competent provision for maintaining a standing stock of pilots.

The Rose to be converted into a fireship.

Proposals being read from Mr. Johnson of Blackwall for the building of some of the new ships by contract, and the same with the inducements for or against it being in part debated ; The same were ORDERED to be referred to the O[fficers of the] N[avy] for their opinion thereon, Sir Anthony Deane declaring himself willing to stand charged with the overlooking the performance of the works, so as the same shall answer contract, for such of them as shall be built in the River.

ORDERED, that payment be made to the chamber-keeper of the Robes for his layings-out in firing or any other charges relating to the meeting of [the] Admiralty there, with the like allowance for his attendance at their meetings as was heretofore made.

JANUARY 8, 1677-8

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

S. P. gave his Majesty and their Lordships an account of the ships going to the Straits and what are now there, with their several present conditions and how disposed of,

occasioned upon some fresh jealousies relating to France and what that Crown may upon a sudden rupture do by way of surprise upon our fleet there.

Sir John Narbrough having not yet given his full advice touching the method of managing the present war against the Turks in reference to the place of rendezvous and lodging of stores, His Majesty was pleased, with the advice of the Lords, to declare his opinion that Port Mahon would be the properest place for the same, and that under the present silence of Sir J. N. our preparations by the Officers of the Navy should be directed thither.

ORDERED, that the Hampshire should be stopped from sailing, for a packet to be by her sent to Spain.

Sir John Narbrough is also cautioned to have a special eye to the French, and to appoint a place of general rendezvous for the fleet.

Mr. Pepys is also directed forthwith to advertise privately some members of the Turkey Company, in behalf of the whole, to take it into their consideration the state of their affairs within the Mediterranean with respect to what their concernments may require upon supposition of a surprise in that sea from France.

Mr. Pepys is also privately to advertise the O[fficers of the] N[avy] to bethink themselves of all needful supplies that can be speedily made of sail-cloth, rosin, and other naval commodities that are to be fetched from France, that they may be secured before any rupture with that Crown shall be declared ; It being at the same time recommended to¹ [my] Lord Treasurer to assist the Officers of the Navy as far as he is able with money for the doing hereof, as also for the enabling the victuallers of the navy to go on vigorously with their preparations.

RESOLVED, that an additional declaration for 3000 men be proposed speedily to the Council.

The Navy Officers also to be advised to consider of the timely lodging of victuals, stores, and a hulk at Plymouth, with some like provisions also at Kinsale in Ireland, and the providing of due supplies of stores in general in the navy, as far as they shall be enabled by money or credit to do the same.

¹ MS. 'by.'

JANUARY 12, 1677-8

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Craven; Master of the Ordnance; Mr. Speaker; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Estimate for the distribution of 3000 men's victuals signed.

His Majesty does in like manner approve and confirm the designs presented him by the Officers of the Navy for the future ornaments for his ships of each rate, thereby to prevent the extravagant and (at the best) uncertain expensefulness of builders in their adorning of their ships.

The Anne yacht to carry 80 soldiers on Tuesday next to Jersey.

S. P. presents to the Board from the Governors of Christ's Hospital the annual list of his Majesty's mathematical children there, to the great satisfaction of his Majesty and my Lords.

Lord Carlisle to transport 200 men with him to Jamaica.

Protections from pressing of their men granted to the vessels belonging to the Royal Fishery; the like to a vessel belonging to Colchester.

Examination of the business in controversy between the old and new victuallers of the navy about the piece of ground at the Victualling Office on Tower Hill referred to the Officers of the Navy.

Approbation given to a report from the Officers of the Navy upon the present vacancy of one of the places of one of the masters attendants at Chatham, for the abolishing for the future the late having two master attendants of equal authority there and turning it in[to] one master attendant and a master attendant's assistant.

The claim of the company of the Hunter to a share of the gratuity given to their commander by the Guinea Company referred to Mr. Pepys for enquiry and report.

A letter from Captain Tennant¹ read, with another from Sir Palmes Fairborne,² about 10 men extraordinary

¹ Commander of the Chatham sloop.

² Deputy-governor of Tangier; see *D. N. B.*, xviii. 125.

to be allowed to the Chatham sloop employed at Tangier.

A sloop to be assigned to the service of my Lord Hatton ¹ at Guernsey.

JANUARY 17, 1677-8

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Craven; Master of the Ordnance; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

Debate being had touching the dimensions proposed by Mr. Pett at Chatham for the 1st-rate ship designed to be by him built there, and upon which he writes that he finds when he built the Prince he built her too narrow, so she was forced to be girdled, which he would now avoid the occasion of; ORDERED, that Mr. Pett be sent for to come to town, to bring along with him his midship bend and to discourse with the King and Officers of the Navy touching the said dimensions.

His Majesty approved of a proposal made by Sir Jonas Moore ² to the Governors of Christ's Hospital for the keeping from month to month two of the mathematical boys in the King's Observatory there under Mr. Flamsteed, ³ for their being entered into the practical use of the instruments for their taking their observations, knowledge of the stars, etc., before they go to sea.

Flags approved of, and ORDERED to be paid for, for the use of the two yachts employed in the transporting for Holland the Prince of Orange upon one and the Princess upon the other, being peculiar flags devised by Sir William Dugdale, King-at-Arms. ⁴

¹ Governor of Guernsey; see *D. N. B.*, xxv. 163.

² On Sir Jonas Moore, the mathematician, see *D. N. B.*, xxxviii. 373. He was one of the governors of the Hospital, and had played an important part in the establishment of the King's mathematical school there.

³ On John Flamsteed, the first astronomer royal, see *D. N. B.*, xix. 241. The observatory referred to was the recently erected royal observatory at Greenwich.

⁴ See p. 550 above.

His Majesty directs Mr. Pepys to take care that a ship be appointed for convoying over 22 horses for the use of the King of France.

The Drake and Lark to be well fitted for the sea. Fit out the 2 fireships and look out for more. Another fireship to be appointed for Portsmouth.

His Majesty is pleased to declare his pleasure that Captain Nugent be upon the account of his long service appointed to succeed Captain Page in the command of the guard-boats at Chatham.

Sir John Kempthorne the Commissioner of the Navy, and Colonel Legge Governor of Portsmouth, to consult touching the security of that harbour.

An account from the Officers of the Navy of the goods contracted for and received in, and workmen employed upon the new ships, in each yard to this day.

Small vessels to be taken up for pressing of men and fetching them from the out-ports.

The Gallipoli¹ merchants concerned for convoy for that fleet ORDERED to attend to-morrow morning, and Sir Thomas Allin and Sir Richard Haddock to do the like.

JANUARY 20, 1677-8

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

RESOLVED, that 2 good sailers be ordered to be sent with all speed to Gallipoli¹ and the rest of the ports of Italy to convoy our merchant-ships thence to Cephalonia, there to rendezvous, and Sir John N[arbrough] to be himself with his whole fleet at Cephalonia by the 10th of April, there to stay till the 15th and no longer, after which he is to bring all our merchant-ships thence, seeing them safe out of danger, and then send them home with such convoy as he upon the best of his intelligence at that time shall judge sufficient, himself doing what he shall judge best for his Majesty's service with the rest of the fleet; He being

¹ The Italian port of Gallipoli, S.E. of Taranto.

to be advertised that this is done out of a prospect of war with France, and that, as there shall be occasion and opportunity for it, he may expect further advice from hence at Gallipoli or elsewhere.

And Sir Richard Haddock and Mr. Pepys are to confer to-morrow with some merchants upon the Exchange about the earliness of the time herein assigned for the coming away of the Gallipoli fleet, as also what the Turkey merchants may find necessary to propose to his Majesty at this juncture in any concerns of theirs.

Hasten all the ships designed for the Straits.

Sir John Narbrough to have notice given him of Sir Richard Munden's¹ being to come home with his convoys from Turkey, in order to his considering some provision for the safety of those ships also.

A report from the Officers of the Navy being read, touching their treating with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Castle about their building some of the new 3rd-rates by contract, whereto they add their advice that some may be by them built accordingly ; The agreements for the same were upon debate approved of, and it was thereupon RESOLVED, that the remainder of the said 3rd-rates whose building is not yet provided for by his Majesty shall be built by contract accordingly.

JANUARY 24, 1677-8

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Master of the Ordnance ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Chancellor of the Exchequer ; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

An account given of the death of Captain William Harman, commander of the Guernsey, lately killed in the Straits in a conflict with the Algireens,² and of his lieutenant Lieutenant Tennant's extraordinarily acquitting himself in the conduct of the ship after his captain's fall.

¹ Commander of the *St. David*, convoying the Mediterranean trade ; see *D. N. B.*, xxxix. 301.

² An account of this action is given by Charnock (*Biog. Nav.*, i. 396) ; but the captain's Christian name is given in error as James.

The report of the Officers of the Navy approved of touching Captain Belbin's pretence to the allowance of a superannuated officer.¹

A petition being read from Mr. Windham, relating to a wreck within his lordship upon the coast of Suffolk, referred to the Vice-Admiral of that county.

The Guarland to be paid.

Certificates read, according to the new establishment,² from the Officers of the Navy and flag-officers, approving the qualifications of 4 persons pretending to lieutenancies and disapproving a 5th, to the great satisfaction of his Majesty and my Lords in the prospect it gives them of the good breed of lieutenants, and consequently of commanders, which may hereafter be expected in the navy.

Mr. Pett of Chatham's reasons debated for his enlarging his dimensions of the 1st-rate ship to be by him built; RESOLVED, that he be stated³ to his length, and that for the breadth he brings a draught to his Majesty.

A letter read from the Officers of the Navy, touching the undecent comportment of Captain Preistman to the N[avy] Board, and particularly Sir Thomas Allin; and the Navy Officers to have the satisfaction of Preistman's being called to account for the same.

Victuals only, and not wages, to be allowed some men brought home from the Straits by Captain Russell in the Reserve, it appearing that they did upon occasion do some duty, yet they came not home as of the ship's company but as passengers.

Upon a letter read from Captain Killigrew, RESOLVED, that he have liberty presently⁴ given him of entering some men, though his ship the Bristol be not in present readiness to receive them on board, it being but for a spring's time, the charge of which will be more than made good by the speedy manning the ship in the whole.

The victuallers of the navy called in about the business of money, for which they are soliciting, and whereto

¹ See p. 575 below.

² See pp. 535, 544 above.

³ Settled.

⁴ Immediately.

my Lord Treasurer gave them answer to their present satisfaction; Mr. Speaker nevertheless taking notice of the irregularity of their solicitations for the same, they having not attended him at all about it.¹

MARCH II, 1677-8

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Lord Carlisle's dispatch to Jamaica to be hastened.

Sir Thomas Meadows² to be spoke withal about what vessels (if any) be likely to go this year to Iceland,³ in order to their convoy.

Mr. Pepys is directed to look up what regulations have been already or may be further proposed for practising the business of pressing of men, there being a present prospect of action likely to require the same.

Enlarge press warrants, now to extend not only to ships homeward-bound but to ships outward-bound also.

Refusal given to the request of Mr. Powell, purser of the Royal Charles, of a liberty of putting a deputy into that ship, he having entertained himself as secretary to my Lord Carlisle, now going Governor to Jamaica.

The Officers of the Navy are to consider of the means necessary for the embarking of an army for Flanders from Harwich, the River, and Dover, and what may be requisite to send up the Scheldt.

In case of great action, Plymouth, Falmouth, and Harwich are to be appointed for victualling-ports and provided for accordingly.

In prospect of a war with France, it is RESOLVED as necessary, that the numbers of men upon the ships in the Straits be advanced to the highest complements for time of war.⁴

¹ As treasurer of the navy.

² MS. 'Meddowes.' Thomas Meadows of Yarmouth had been knighted 16th August, 1660.

³ *Margin*: 'Ireland,' but this is corrected to Iceland in the text.

⁴ *I.e.*, for 'war at home,' as distinguished from 'war abroad'; see Pepys's *Register of Ships*.

MARCH 19, 1677-8

[At Mr. Secretary Coventry's. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

The Antelope to be appointed convoy to the East India and Bilbao¹ ships.

Clauses prepared by Mr. Pepys to be added to the points to be adjusted with Admiral Evertsen² (upon foresight of a conjunction between our fleets and those of Holland) touching striking the flag, salutes, and magazines, being read were approved.

Leave given by his Majesty to Sir John Holmes, now commander-in-chief in the Downs, to come to town.

The Mermaid appointed to go convoy to Hamburg.³

The charges attending the transporting of the land-forces ORDERED to be made good to the navy by special estimates to be answered by moneys to be particularly assigned them for the same by my Lord Treasurer.

RESOLVED, that the St. Michael and Royal Oak be sheathed, in order to their being sent to the Straits to Sir J[ohn] N[arbrough] in case of a rupture with France.

The Navy Officers to be authorised to hire tenders for pressing of men, and [to] consider of all means of procuring men.

A memorial to be presented to the Council Board by Mr. Pepys for a general embargo, a proclamation to call home seamen, and instructions to the Vice-Admirals of the marine counties to bring in men.

5th and 6th-rates in the Straits to be presently⁴ raised to their highest complements of men, they being in particular complained of from thence as under-manned, with respect to the full manning of the Algier ships.

Ships now abroad to be authorised to press men beyond their own complements, towards the manning of the ships ordered forth.

¹ MS. 'Bilboa.'

² MS. 'Everson.'

³ MS. 'Hambrough.'

⁴ Immediately.

MARCH 24, 1677-8

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

The embargo to be in general dispensed with as to colliers, and also to all vessels employed in his Majesty's service by the Officers of the Navy or Ordnance for the transporting of provisions, stores, etc., from port to port.

Victuallers to have passes for their vessels also employed in the service of the navy, upon condition of having their express numbers and names of men mentioned in their said passes.

All Scotch vessels also to be exempted, upon the account of his Majesty's having a claim to his being supplied immediately for Scotland for what numbers of men shall reasonably be demanded for his sea service from that kingdom as hath heretofore in like cases been done. Which number is therefore to be inquired into, and the time formerly allowed for the coming in of the same.

The like granted upon the petition of Yarmouth, Mr. Secretary Williamson moving the same, and mentioning it to be for the *grande partie*¹; security being taken for the return of the ships and men.

The like also upon the petition of Monsieur Barr.

The ships now going out ORDERED to be manned to their middle complement.²

EASTER DAY, MARCH 31, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Arlington³; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

A letter read from Sir J[ohn] N[arbrough] from Livorne, dated the 11th of March, and consideration thereon had of the great change in the state of affairs in the Straits to the eastward, from the French being come away from Messina.

His Majesty's late instructions to Sir John Narbrough

¹ MS. 'Grand Partee.'

² *I.e.*, for 'war abroad.'

³ Lord Chamberlain.

were thereupon called upon and read, for his going to Cephalonia and his coming from thence by the 15th of April, upon which it was proposed that a ship should be presently¹ ordered to him to direct him to repair to the westward and look after Tangier and Port Mahon ; As also that if he shall have any intelligence of the French's being come out of the Straits, he come with his whole squadron to England.

The Dutch Ambassador was also sent for to attend his Majesty presently,¹ in order to his knowing what his master would do with their ships now in the Straits, which being in the Spaniard's pay and the work of Messina over,² the Spaniards may now possibly discharge them.

Mr. Pepys gave an account (upon occasion of my Lord Treasurer's present demanding it) what ships are now in the Straits, what actually abroad here, and what going out, and his Lordship making mention of the ships which were lately said to be capable of being set forth to sea for the sum of £35,000, Mr. Pepys noted that the same would have been done had the said sum been made good, of which not one farthing was yet paid ; Adding how many merchant-ships are also taken up, but all stand still for want of money. To which his Lordship was pleased to answer, that the supplying thereof rested wholly upon the Parliament, and that in right to his Majesty it ought to be remembered, when occasion did call for it, how many things his Majesty had earlily done in expectation of a war with France, his instructions to Narbrough formerly given about repairing with his squadron to Cephalonia being expressly calculated from his prospect of such a war, as backward as the Parliament seems to be in believing the reality of his intentions therein.³

¹ Immediately.

² The inhabitants of Messina had appealed to France for assistance against Spain, and a French fleet had occupied the city. Thereupon the Spaniards applied to the Dutch, who sent a fleet under Ruyter into the Mediterranean. The French admiral defeated the combined Dutch and Spanish fleets, but in 1678 suddenly abandoned Messina, which was occupied by Spain.

³ For the attitude of parliament there was some justification. So little reality was there about the king's intentions, that only

RESOLVED, that the Nonsuch be ordered to be fitted forth to the Straits; and accordingly an express was sent away to Harwich for the bringing her back to the Downs to that purpose, with another to the Downs for another ship to be sent from thence to Harwich to supply the room of the Nonsuch.

APRIL 6, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Master of the Ordnance; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

A letter read from the Officers of the Navy and approved of, about pursers not being permitted to go to sea again before they have passed their accounts for former voyages; and a general resolution taken for the forbidding not only pursers but other officers in the navy to execute their office by deputies.

It was finally also RESOLVED, that Cleggett, purser of the Royal James, be discharged from his said employment, upon the score of the complaint some time since exhibited against him by the Speaker for corrupting of his ship's books.¹

Another letter from the Officers of the Navy read, about the victuallers' demand of allowance extraordinary for the charge of providing victuals at Falmouth and Plymouth,² as not being named as victualling-ports in their contracts. Upon which it was RESOLVED, that his Majesty will bear the charge of transporting of victuals from Plymouth to Falmouth as there shall be occasion for it.

RESOLVED also, that the provision of victuals some

a week before the date of this minute, on 25th March, 1678, he had directed Danby to write the letter with its famous postscript, 'This is writ by my order—C.R.,' offering to sell England's assistance to Louis XIV. for a payment of six million livres a year for three years.

¹ See 22nd September.

² MS. repeats Falmouth, but the margin refers to Plymouth.

time since designed to be made at Lisbon be let alone, and that the same be made at Cadiz.

RESOLVED, that the opinion of the King's counsel¹ be taken, upon a letter from the Officers of the Navy now read, upon the construction of the words, *For the war against the French King*.

Belbin² is to have the benefit of the establishment as a superannuated officer, the King himself declaring his being satisfied from his personal observation of the said Belbin's disability by age to perform any further duty as commander or master.

Navy Officers' advice about the gunning and manning of the merchant men-of-war hired into the King's service.

An Order of Council to be demanded about ships to be taken up for fireships.

The Officers of the Navy propose that for the better dispatch of the hired men-of-war, commanders might be appointed to them. Orders also to be issued for their manning and victualling, but money complained to be much wanting for dispatch of the works to be done upon them.

The gunners belonging to the said hired men-of-war, and pretending to be continued on them under his Majesty, ORDERED to be examined and their abilities certified for by Mr. Leake, Master-Gunner of England.³

A report being read from the Officers [of the] Navy, giving their opinion doubtfully touching the new method of lead-sheathing ; It was directed, that of the 2 small ships which shall be set forth next to the southward, the Officers of the Navy do take care of the doing of one on behalf of his Majesty, and Sir Anthony Deane of the other on behalf of the contractors for the said lead, for whom it is said that if they may have the ordering of the said work they will so perform it as that no inconvenience shall arise (as is pretended) to the rudder-irons⁴ and other ironworks from some hidden quality in the said

¹ MS. ' Councill.'

² See p. 569 above.

³ Richard Leake had been appointed by patent master-gunner of England and storekeeper of his Majesty's ordnance and stores of war at Woolwich, 21st May, 1677 (*D. N. B.*, xxxii. 322).

⁴ MS. ' rother irons.'

sheathing. ORDERED, that the case of the *Henrietta*, whose ironwork failed so much in that particular, be well examined.¹

A report from the Officers of the Navy read and approved, and the estimate signed for Sheerness about building of accommodation there for the officers of that yard.

A proposition read and referred to the O[fficers of the] N[avy], about my Lord of Strafford's ² woods of Shelely ³ in Ireland.

Passes and convoy granted, upon the petition of the fishermen of the Foreland, during the present season.

A late proposition of setting up a standing passage-boat for persons going between Rochester and Sheerness rejected, upon Sir Richard Beach's report touching the same.

Consideration had of a complaint Sir J[ohn] N[ar-brough] does particularly make of merchant-vessels exposing themselves in the Mediterranean without convoy, not only to their own great hazard, but to the drawing clamour upon the King and his officers in case of miscarriage, whereas they may have convoy if they regularly ask for it. And RESOLVED, that when a time shall come of any treaty of peace between us and the Algireenes, and discharge of captives to be provided for therein, regard be had to the making some difference between such as became captives by their own presumption of this kind and those who fall into it only by misfortune.

Many persons now applying themselves for employment in all sorts of offices in the navy, upon occasion of the great fleet now setting forth ; It was RESOLVED, that in the examination of the said persons as to their qualifications for those employments, special regard be had to the giving preference (where in other respects they are equal) to such as have spent their time and

¹ See p. 503, note 3, above.

² William Wentworth, the only son of the first Earl of Strafford. His father's attainder had been reversed in 1662, when he was already Earl of Strafford of the second creation by a fresh grant of 1641 (*D. N. B.*, lx. 283).

³ Shillelagh, in county Wicklow, was famous for its oak woods.

heretofore ventured their lives in his Majesty's service before those that have only served in merchantmen.

My Lord Treasurer was pleased to give his Majesty and the Board some account about the present state of the business of money, and that he purposes speedily to go into the City to answer the difficulties made to the lending of money therein ; Shews how he purposes to divide the money between the navy and ordnance by the proportions following, which for the present he looks upon as the most suitable to the occasions thereof, viz., army 30, navy 40, and ordnance 10, and will give the Officers of the Navy a copy of this his proposal of proportion for their giving him their opinion on it ; Adding that this distribution does relate only to the Poll Bill,¹ and so if there be any wrong in his said measures it may be made good to the navy afterwards.

ORDERED, that the men belonging to the Chatham sloop, lately lost at Tangier,² be allowed neither wages nor consideration for clothes, she being lost by their negligence, but the commander and his boat's crew to have their pay, as being at that time on shore at Tangier by order.

A vessel bound to Gottenburg³ to be suffered to go at the request of Monsieur Leyenbergh,⁴ the King of Sweden's Minister here.

The 2 Greenland ships to have each of them passes granted them, but Mr. Gold⁵ only to wear the jack beyond the North Cape of Norway.

The Mayor of Dartmouth is to be denied convoy to the ships gone forth from that place, contrary to order, to Newfoundland, the war expected with France rendering the sending a small convoy thither little less than the betraying of the said convoy as well as the fish-ships to the French.

Launch the new ship on Friday next.

¹ 29 & 30 Car. II. c. 1 provided for raising money by a poll-tax for the purposes of a war with France.

² The note in Pepys's *Register of Ships* is 'run ashore by slaves to be sent to Cadiz, in Tangier Bay' (*Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 293).

³ MS. 'Gottenbrough.'

⁴ MS. 'Lyonberg.' See note on p. 424 above.

⁵ Probably Mr. John Gold or Gould, a London merchant.

Inquire after the resolutions of the Council Table about liberty to be given to the ships of Scotland and Ireland homeward-bound.

AGREED, that a report be made to the Council Table in favour of ships bound to Norway and the Baltic for masts, timber, pitch, tar, plank, etc., provided the King may have the refusal of the said goods at their return at the then market price, or that the owners enter into contract with the Officers of the Navy at a certain price for their loadings before their going.

APRIL 13, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Embarkation to be provided for 5000 horse at Dover and Gravesend for Antwerp.

The like for 1100 men to be shipped off from Dover, Margate,¹ and Deal, with an estimate to be prepared of the charge thereof.

Papers from the chirurgeons relating to the sick and wounded referred to the Officers of the Navy.

An account presented by the Navy Board of the present progress of the new ships, wherein his Majesty and my Lords were pleased to press them to all possible diligence and dispatch, as far as the same could consist with the works of the fleet now in fitting forth.

His Majesty was pleased to direct convoys to some horses of the King of France's now going over from Dover.

Examine the case of Captain Tyte demanding his wages in the Deptford ketch.

Mr. Buckworth's ² petition about a pass granted.

The Council's papers about Vice-Admirals read.

A petition of a carrier from Exeter for a protection for his men that they may not be imprested, granted.

A letter from the Lords Commissioners of Tangier on

¹ MS. 'Margatt.'

² See note on p. 536 above.

behalf of Mr. Bland¹ read, but with so much offence taken by his Majesty at some expressions in it arraiging the proceedings of his officers there in their taking up Mr. Bland's house, as being an invasion of his property contrary to law, as that his Majesty was pleased to demur to the considering the matter desired till satisfaction should be given the Lords touching the style of the letter.

His Majesty and the Lords were pleased to recommend in particular to the care of the Officers of the Navy the constant supplying the fleet which is and shall be employed in the Straits with provisions and stores.

The request of the Lord Carlisle about freeing of a ship granted, as also a supply of nets for fishing.

APRIL 14, 1678

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Memorandum. That this night I presented to his Majesty the draughts of two letters prepared by me, one to Sir John Narbrough and another to Captain Rooke² in the Nonsuch who carries the same to Sir J. N., and having the said letters adjusted to his Majesty's approbation, caused them to be immediately written, and after signing by his Majesty dispatched them away this night by express to the Downs.

APRIL 20, 1678

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Chamberlain ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Master of the Ordnance ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

The weekly account read from the Officers of the Navy of the progress of the new ships and the provision

¹ Mr. John Bland was comptroller at Tangier (*Admiralty Letters*, No. 3313), and had also served as mayor. References to some of his activities are given in E. M. G. Routh, *Tangier*, 1661-1684 (index).

² Afterwards Admiral Sir George Rooke ; see *D. N. B.*, xlix. 204.

of stores made for them ; The whole whereof was recommended to the Officers of the Navy for all dispatch.

AGREED to a report from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] about 2 new 3rd-rates to be gone in hand with against 2 expected to be launched in May and June.

A letter of the 18th April from the Officers of the Navy read and approved, about several particulars and the dispatch of the 28 ships.

My Lord Treasurer was pleased to propose the business of the *quaeres* lately raised upon the construction of the Poll Bill,¹ informing his Majesty and the Board that the King's counsel² had already met, and given their opinion clear in justification of the applying of the money to anything done or bought, even before the Act passed, that was for the service of the war.

He was also pleased to open the King's losing £300,000 by the late prohibition upon French wines,³ and £100,000 will fail whenever the war shall begin.

The *quaeres* of the Officers of the Navy (who seemed not yet satisfied in what was reported touching the opinion of the King's counsel² about the construction of the Poll Bill³) being put in writing at the Board, were ORDERED to be shewn in their own terms to the King's counsel² for their answer thereto, and my Lord Brouncker⁴ to accompany them to the counsel² for the fuller explaining of his doubts therein.

Mr. Pepys acquainting the Board with the many instances of the neglects and abuses committed by the several postmasters upon the roads, to the exposing his Majesty's service to great hazard by the miscarriage and delays of letters, And one particular above the rest, where an express directed to the Downs was delivered to a stage-coachman to carry, so as the said express came not to hand so soon as the letters which were sent away the post following it, with another misdemeanour committed by the master of the packet-boat at Dover in suppressing of a letter directed to Captain Faseby, commander of the Charles yacht, by which he should have

¹ See note on p. 577 above.

² MS. 'Councill.'

³ The Poll Bill (29 & 30 Car. II. c. 1) had also prohibited the importation of French wine and other goods.

⁴ Comptroller of the treasurer's accounts.

been directed to have fetched over Mr. Mackland from Calais, who being thereby disappointed of the said yacht, was driven to take his passage upon the packet-boat, and therein pillaged and hurt by a pirate that met him at sea ; the same was committed to Sir John Werden,¹ on behalf of the Duke, to inquire fully into the grounds thereof and see it rectified for the future.

ORDERED, that the case be stated by Mr. Pepys and reported to the Board, upon hearing equally from both parties the matter in difference between Lieutenant Hastings and Sir Robert Robinson's son about the pay of the lieutenant of the Assurance claimed by each during Lieutenant Hastings bringing home of the Quaker ketch as commander of her from Tangier.

A report read from the Officers of the Navy about the late miscarriage of Mr. Burgess, storekeeper at Woolwich.

APRIL 27, 1678

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Chamberlain ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Sir Robert Robinson to be ready with the ships designed to carry 1400 men over to Ostend.

Several letters read from the Vice-Admirals of the counties, particularly Sir John Bramston² and Sir Edward Seymour,³ about the non-payment of their money.

The Lords RESOLVE of granting their protection to a ship now embargoed by Sir Robert Holmes,⁴ for so much as relates only to the stop laid upon her by the embargo, but not to the withstanding any other impediment lying in her way from the Act of Parliament.⁵

¹ MS. ' Worden.' Sir John Werden was secretary to James, Duke of York ; see *D. N. B.*, lx. 295.

² On Sir John Bramston the younger, of Skreens, see *D. N. B.*, vi. 210 ; he was vice-admiral of Essex.

³ Vice-admiral of Devon ; see p. 398 above.

⁴ Governor of the Isle of Wight ; see *D. N. B.*, xxvii. 194.

⁵ Probably the Act referred to in note 3 on p. 580 above.

My Lord Treasurer was pleased to declare the necessity he should be under of interrupting the navy's course of payment in the 4th return of it by applying of it to the forces, as that without which, he declares, the great numbers of men which his Majesty has this day resolved to send over cannot possibly go.

His Majesty recommending it to my Lord Treasurer, at the instance of my Lords, that money may be presently¹ found for answering the demands of the Vice-Admirals, as also the other occasions of the Officers and Victuallers of the Navy for the general dispatch of the great works now in hand ; His Lordship was pleased to promise the doing of all that could be done therein.

An Order read from the Council Board on behalf of Scotch and Irish ships, which was presented and read.

Another, for men to be supplied his Majesty's service from Scotland, according to what was done from thence the last war.

Another, referring to my Lords the case of the merchant-ship Unicorn, wherein it is to be inquired after and proved that she was fully loaden before the embargo.

Another, about Bowen's case, the particulars whereof are to be examined.

The like ditto, about the Guinea Company, which was agreed to by my Lords in regard that the vessels were small.

The case of Cutler, purser of the Royal Oak, being by petition stated to my Lords, and the matter for which he was turned out found upon examination very slight ; ORDERED, that he be restored thereto.

A petition of Mr. Browne about a ship coming from Virginia granted.

ORDERED, that the damage done to the old Katherine yacht, now in the possession of the Master of the Ordnance, and lately taken up for some sudden service relating to the Prince and Princess of Orange's going over, be made good by the navy.

A memorial to be put into the hand of Mr. Secretary Coventry, touching the duties the victuallers of the navy desire to be exempted from at Cadiz ; And the

¹ *I.e.*, immediately.

said victuallers' further request agreed to relating to Falmouth.

RESOLVED, that the slopsellers now employed in the navy be at liberty to issue all the slops which they are concerned in at this day, upon any of his Majesty's ships, and no more, before Sir Thomas Beckford¹ be restored to his former employ of slopseller.

The Gravesend tilt-boats² to be exempted from pressing.

The Lord Carlisle referred to the O[fficers of the] N[avy] about the tonnage of his soldiers' goods going to Jamaica.

The business of a clerk of the survey at Woolwich being, upon debate with the Officers of the Navy, found to contain work enough (as the service of the navy is now grown) for one whole man, whereas it has hitherto³ been annexed to the work of the clerk of the survey at Deptford, and he accountable for both; RESOLVED, that from henceforward there be a particular officer established for the work at Woolwich under the direction of the Surveyor of the Navy, separate from him at Deptford.

Protections allowed to the coal-ships at Cumberland.

The like granted upon the petition of Monsieur De Gendue,⁴ upon bond given for the return of the men.

MAY 18, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Chancellor of the Exchequer; Mr. Speaker. Navy Officers attending.]

At a motion of my Lord Treasurer's, the suspension put by Sir Richard Beach⁵ upon Captain Turner, gunner of the St. George, for absenting himself from his duty

¹ Major Thomas Beckford had been knighted, as one of the sheriffs of the City of London, in October 1677.

² A large boat fitted with a tilt or awning, formerly used on the Thames, and especially for carrying passengers between London and Gravesend (*Oxford Dictionary*).

³ MS. 'has not hitherto.'

⁴ MS. 'Monsieur D. Gendue'; *Margin*: 'Mr. Gendue.'

⁵ Resident commissioner of the navy at Chatham.

(his Lordship satisfying the Board that the same was occasioned by the said Turner's sickness) was removed.

RESOLVED, upon the question raised by the Officers of the Navy, what security should in pursuance of the Act¹ be expected from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck for enabling them to pay into his hands the moneys requisite to be imprested to him upon the score of his victualling his Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean, that it could not be thought reasonable or necessary to expect any other security than his own, and that therefore they should be directed to expect the same single.²

In answer to a letter to my Lords from the O[fficers of the] N[avy], and another from them to Mr. Pepys with a copy of the Lord Treasurer's advice to them therein; RESOLVED, that the repair of the rest of his Majesty's ships (the 28 being done) be gone in hand with, upon the account of the war against the French King.

The Navy Officers' report read from Sir Richard Beach about the defect of the Henrietta's rudder-irons³ lately come from the Straits.

The Lord Privy Seal moves, that all ships bound for Ireland may, upon bond given for their being bound thither, be exempt from the embargo; and had the same agreed to.

The same allowed to 2 East India ships.

RESOLVED, that a letter of reprehension be writ to Burgess, storekeeper at Woolwich, for his late misbehaviour⁴ complained of by the Officers of the Navy, signifying his Majesty's remitting the same, but that it should be for this one fault only.

The Officers of the Navy authorised to hire a ketch for the use of the King of Sweden, to transport some of that King's goods to Gottenburg,⁵ he paying the charge and freight thereof, according to a memorial to that purpose delivered in by Monsieur Leyenbergh.⁶

One of the new 3rd-rates being to be launched the 29th instant at Harwich; ORDERED, that she be called

¹ § 63 of 29 & 30 Car. II. c. 1; see note 1 on p. 577.

² Alone.

³ MS. 'rother irons.'

⁴ See p. 581 above.

⁵ MS. 'Gottenbrough.'

⁶ MS. 'Lyonbergh'; but see note on p. 424 above.

the Restoration, and laid up when launched at Chatham, with his Majesty's and their Lordships' earnest recommendation of the general dispatch of the new ship to the Officers of the Navy.

JUNE 16, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

His Majesty's resolutions taken and read over, about 20 foot companies and 500 horse to be sent over to Ireland; The number and names of the ships read which were to carry them, the places from whence in England, and where to be landed in Ireland.

Mr. Pepys offering to his Majesty's consideration the determining upon what terms he should think fit to insist with the Algereens for a peace, in order to the lessening (if possible) that chargeable part of his present naval service in the Mediterranean, taking notice of the advice given us by all our letters of the inclination the Algereens are led, by their troubles at home, to the obtaining a peace with us; It was RESOLVED, that his Majesty would with all possible speed take that matter into solemn debate, and come to some final issue in it.

ORDERED, that the Charlotte yacht be forthwith caulked and graved.

Mr. Pepys presents the Board by command with a particular of the 1st and 2nd-rate ships now abroad, in order to the considering where they shall be laid up when they shall come to be paid off; And it was RESOLVED, that the Charles be carried from the Downs to Portsmouth to be laid up there. It was also taken into consideration that the 3 flag-ships might be put out of wear and tear, if there were not money for their present payment off, by turning over their men into other ships that would be still continued abroad; But that to prevent any discouragement to the future coming in of men voluntarily to the great ships, it was concluded as necessary that, upon the laying up of these

3 ships, their volunteers should not be turned over but paid off with ready money.

RESOLVED, that the St. Michael and Royal Katherine be not paid off till the certainty of peace or war be better known, because if a war they shall go to the Straits, though late.

JULY 7, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

RESOLVED, that the Royal Oak be dispatched away with the victuallers, with a general caution only to Sir John Narbrough that he look to himself and the fleet under him with the same circumspection as if a war with the King of France were yet to happen.

Mr. Pepys acquaints the Lords with the complaint of the Officers of the Navy of the great injury his Majesty's service suffers through the discouragement given by some gentlemen in the country to the persons employed in the bringing in of timber from the woods to his Majesty's yards, with particular instances given thereof in Suffolk, and the consequences thereof to the works at Harwich, and a special complaint against Mr. Henry Felton of that country for wounding of a poor carter in the highway without any provocation, as he was drawing the King's timber to Harwich. Upon which it was ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do give an account thereof to one of the Secretaries against the next Council day, and that my Lord Chief Justice be possessed of Mr. Felton's business against his approaching circuit.

Mr. Pepys gave his Majesty also an account that the dogger designed for the carrying of his Majesty's packets to the West Indies is sailed to the Downs.

RESOLVED, to pay off the 1st and 2nd-rate ships, and Mr. Pepys to speak to the King to-morrow about it with my Lord Treasurer at the House of Lords.

The provisions designed for Cadiz are nevertheless to go on, and Mr. Secretary Coventry to have an account given him of what it is the victuallers would demand

about the duties they would be exempted from at Cadiz.

But let the victuallers' other preparations be continued to be stopped, till further more certain knowledge can be had touching war or peace.

The ship designed by his Majesty for Guinea is to go on in her preparations.

The seaman lately condemned at Portsmouth for deserting the service, Sir Thomas Allin and the rest of the Officers mediating for him, his Majesty is graciously pleased to pardon ; But let him serve out 6 months without pay.

The Vice-Admirals of the counties are stopped pressing of men, and all other pressing stopped and to continue so till further order, upon some further foresight had of a war not likely to ensue.

JULY 20, 1678

[*Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Lord Privy Seal ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Master of the Ordnance ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Shipping to be prepared by the Officers of the Navy for carrying 2500 men and horse into the Scheldt.

His Majesty is pleased to approve of the alterations proposed by the Officers of the Navy in the rebuilding of the Greyhound.

My Lord Treasurer is moved for the providing money as soon as is possible for the going in hand with the accommodations designed to be built against winter for the officers of Sheerness.

Upon a letter from the Commissioners for Tangier, his Majesty was pleased to allow of 2 sloops to be assigned to Tangier for the uses proposed by their Lordships in their said letter.

Captain Temple ORDERED to make good to his Majesty the full value of what the King would otherwise be exposed to the loss of, by the false musters of the Adventure.

Respite the execution of the Order of Council requiring an estimate of the charge of maintaining 6 ships for the service of the Leeward Islands.

Respite also the further proceedings of any of the Vice-Admirals calling for an account of the moneys by them received.

Weekly account read from the Officers of the Navy of the progress of the new ships and their stores.

The business of laying up so many of the Royal ships at Portsmouth debated. Wherein it was at length consented to by all: First, That they spend less in their charge in moorings at Portsmouth than in the fresher water at Chatham; Second, That they are as safe there as at Chatham from any attempt of fire, enemy or otherwise; Third, That they are sooner at sea thence than from Chatham; Fourth, That the Sovereign has long lain there without any inconveniency attending her; Lastly, That in time of war the pressing of men for great ships being all to be done by small vessels pressing or fetching of men from remote parts, the difference is not very great (if any) between the difficulty of manning them at Portsmouth or in the river of Thames. So as the only objection seeming to remain against Portsmouth is that of careening them; To which are opposed the several other particulars of advantage before mentioned.

There must be an Order of Council and privy seal for bringing the men from Virginia.

Sir Nicholas Armourer's report from my Lord Lieutenant of Ireland read and agreed to, with a privy seal to be passed for it, and the Officers of the Navy to dispose of the timber left.

Mr. Pepys observed to his Majesty and my Lords, not only the Leopard, Guernsey, and Tiger now come home and expecting to be paid off but the whole number of 90 ships now lying upon his Majesty's charge, and the consequent burthen of it in case the same be not lessened by discharging them as fast as the state of his Majesty's affairs and treasure will admit. AGREED, that for the present the 1st and 2nd-rate ships be all laid up, in order to their being put out of the charge of wear and tear, but that none of their men be discharged till there can be had some greater certainty of peace and

war, and what ships shall be judged requisite to be kept abroad, and that to this purpose the ships designed to Portsmouth from the Downs be ordered thither.

Mr. Pepys noted nevertheless that the annual general survey of the navy and its stores may be timely gone in hand with, which was agreed to, and my Lord Treasurer to confer with Mr. Pepys about it.

ORDERED, that the prizes taken by Sir John Narbrough in the Straits capable of being converted to his Majesty's use (a particular of whose names was reported to the King by Mr. Pepys) should be added to the established list of the navy.¹

The Tiger prize to be paid off.

Mr. Pepys acquaints his Majesty that the 3 Turks' prizes remain in the Straits and now with Sir John Narbrough at sea.

A petition from the victuallers read, with a letter from the Officers of the Navy about want of money; About which my Lord Treasurer is to be attended by them on Monday next, who was pleased now to declare that the navy has had its proportion of all the poll money that's yet come in.

A note being presented to the Board by Colonel Legge,² of a parcel of provisions supplied to his soldiers that were lately sent from Portsmouth into Flanders, the same being furnished by the victuallers' agent at Portsmouth and satisfaction desired for the same from his Majesty out of the navy; ORDERED, that the said paper be referred to the Officers of the Navy to examine, and report their opinion thereon to my Lords.

Referred to the Officers of the Navy a letter from the victuallers about duties demanded from them at Kinsale and Cadiz, and Irish meat ³ sent to the Straits.

An account given the Lords by Mr. Pepys of the

¹ From Pepys's *Register of Ships* these appear to have been the Marygold, 4th-rate, and the Orange Tree, 5th-rate, taken in 1677; and the Tiger prize, 4th-rate, and the Date Tree, 5th-rate, taken in 1678.

² George Legge (afterwards Lord Dartmouth), deputy-governor of Portsmouth. In 1678 he commanded the troops sent to Nieuport in Flanders (*D. N. B.*, xxxii. 408).

³ On the unpopularity of Irish beef in the navy, see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 166 n.

report he has received of the badness of some provision delivered to the King's ships from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's ¹ agents at Livorne.

Upon a memorial sent to Mr. Pepys from my Lord Treasurer and by him this day communicated to the Lords; It was RESOLVED, that the commanders of any ships or vessels of the King's sent at any time to the plantations shall be assistant to the officers of his Majesty's customs there in any case wherein the same shall be wanting.

Referred to the Officers of the Navy upon the petition of Captain Kirke, present master attendant at Deptford, to treat with Mrs. Tinker, widow of Captain Tinker, lately master attendant there, about the house wherein the said Captain Tinker lately lived, in order to the King's hiring of it for Captain Kirke.

Some depositions being read, which had been lately sent from Portsmouth by Sir Thomas Allin, touching a French ship's refusing to strike to the Dover, Captain Kempthorne ² commander, the lieutenant of which French ship coming on board the Dover was there left (his ship sailing away without him), and has declared that the King of France has forbid his ships to strike to others of any foreign prince; ORDERED, that the original depositions be delivered by Mr. Pepys to Mr. Secretary Coventry, and that the Judge of the Admiralty be advised with what is fit to be done with the lieutenant.

Some clauses of a patent of my Lord of Worcester's ³ being by his desire communicated this day to my Lords, relating to some Admiral's jurisdiction by him claimed in Wales; ORDERED, that my Lord of Worcester ³ delivering in in writing the purpose of communicating to their Lordships this his patent, and the points wherein he would desire the concurrence of the Lords in acknowledgment of his jurisdiction, the same shall be referred

¹ Victualler for the Mediterranean.

² Admiral Sir John Kempthorne had three sons, John, Morgan, and Rupert, who were all captains in the navy (*D. N. B.*, xxx. 398). The reference in the text is to John Kempthorne, who had been appointed to the command of the Dover, 12th April, 1678.

³ MS. 'Worchester.' The reference is to Henry Somerset, third Marquis of Worcester, and afterwards Duke of Beaufort (*D. N. B.*, liii. 242).

to the Judge of the Admiralty and the Vice-Admiral of that part of Wales wherein his claim lies.

The case of Mr. Bland,¹ as to his pretences to satisfaction for his houses at Tangier, being by the King's command this day opened afresh to the Board, his Majesty and their Lordships were pleased to RESOLVE of having of it reported in favour of his said pretences to the Council Board, in order to his having satisfaction awarded to him from thence to his said pretences.

Sir Thomas Beckford, Sheriff of London, attended with his humble request for payment of some part of the moneys which have been stopped from seamen upon his account for clothes and now remaining in his Majesty's hands; is directed therein upon my Lord Treasurer.

ORDERED, that all dispatch be used in fitting of the Norwich for Guinea, for the accommodation and upon the application of the Guinea Company to his Majesty on that behalf.

JULY 27, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Monmouth; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Master of the Ordnance; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

ORDERED, that an account be forthwith prepared by the Officers of the Navy of a quantity of shipping sufficient for transporting of 1000 horse with all speed, As also of all the cranes to be found fitting for the shipping off of horse between Gravesend and London.²

The business referred hither from the Council Board, touching the present mutiny complained of by Mr. Boreman and his attorney Mr. Tomlinson amongst the lightermen, was argued, the Brethren of Trinity House, Boreman, Tomlinson, and the lightermen attending, and counsel³ for Mr. Tomlinson, shewing that the said lightermen shall always have 6*d.* per ton wet ballast, and that for dry ballast, they will not be troubled with it; That no new lighter shall be brought upon them

¹ See note on p. 579 above.

² *Margin*: '1000 horse transport to Flanders.'

³ MS. 'Councill.'

but as Trinity House shall advise, and not only have them, as far as they were able, to have parts, in them themselves, but if others on shore besides them shall have parts¹ therein, why should the masters of the ballast-office be denied it? Which discourse ended in the lightermen going away without a promise of repairing presently to their work and answering the whole business of the ballast-office well.

A complaint being read against the victuallers of the navy for the badness of the brandy put on board the *Norwich*, bound for Guinea, Captain Hayward commander, from Portsmouth; The victuallers confessed the complaint, and will immediately send other in the room of it which shall upon tasting be approved of by persons to be appointed on behalf of his Majesty.

Sentence of a court-martial lately held upon Captain Royden for ill-treatment of his lieutenant in the *Sweepstakes*, lately returned from Ireland, by which sentence Captain Royden is declared incapable of any future employment in the navy,² and his lieutenant, Aylmer, for his misbehaviour to his captain, discharged from his present employment³; The said sentence was well approved of by their Lordships.

A petition being read from one Gault, with counsel⁴ appearing on the behalf of the petitioner, against Mr. Hughes; ORDERED, that all parties be directed to attend my Lords at the Council Chamber on Wednesday morning next at Whitehall before the Council sits.

Mr. Whittle, chirurgeon of his Majesty's yard at Deptford, petitioning for an increase of salary answerable to his pretended increase of work there; The same was referred to the Officers of the Navy.

Upon the petition read from Key and Young, prisoners in the *Marshalsea*,⁵ confessing their error and praying pardon, they were ordered to be discharged.

A petition of Mr. Julian being read, claiming some

¹ Shares.

² The note in Pepys's *Register* is 'turned out by a court-martial'; he was not employed again.

³ Lieutenant George Aylmer (or Aylmore) was appointed 2nd lieutenant of the *Dunkirk*, 18th August, 1678.

⁴ MS. 'Councill.'

⁵ MS. 'Marshallsyes.'

allowance for his acting, as he pretends, as Judge-Advocate of the Fleet under Sir Edward Spragge in the Straits,¹ is referred to the Officers of the Navy.

JULY 29, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys gives an account of his discourings with the O[fficers of the] N[avy] about the propositions delivered in by some Jews for the victualling of our army in Flanders, and is directed to cause a contract to be prepared between his Majesty and the said Jews according to the terms of the contract now in being with the Prince of Orange for his army; with a general clause of having the benefit of any other covenants that his Majesty shall desire of what is now in being between the Prince and them.

RESOLVED, that a stop be put to the taking up any more vessels for horses.

Send back frigates from Portsmouth to the Downs.

JULY 31, 1678

[*Present*: Lord Privy Seal; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer.]

The petition and case of Mr. Gault, about a ship taken from some of his Majesty's subjects by a Frenchman (while in amity with England), which ship being condemned and sold, Mr. Hughes comes to be concerned in the propriety of her as a purchaser, Being, according to order at the last meeting of the Lords, heard this day before the meeting of the Council, the same, after much discourse, was set aside without any determination.

AUGUST 1, 1678

[*Present*: Lord Treasurer; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

This meeting being assigned specially by the direction of my Lord Treasurer, his Lordship was pleased (his

¹ As far back as 1671.

secretary Mr. Bertie and Captain Shales attending) to bring along¹ with him a state of the debt of the navy to the 5th of June, drawn by Captain Shales, and making £54,000 due to the King from the Parliament more than they have provided.

To which my Lord Brouncker² excepts³ as to one article thereof, viz., to that of the ordinary, valued at £12,000, which he says ought to be £44,000.

My Lord Brouncker then shews that this method of accounting brought to my Lord Treasurer will be found very perplexed, and therefore proposes another instead thereof, of his drawing up, under heads that will bring a sum due to the King very near to that which the other does of £54,000. Upon which my Lord Brouncker's method of account is accepted of, and he desired to finish it by particulars and present it to my Lord Treasurer.

RESOLVED, to have the great ships put into a condition of being presently⁴ laid up and paid off also, if there be no war. But only laid up and the men transferred to other ships if it prove a war, which my Lord Treasurer says will be certainly known within a week.

My Lord Treasurer gives Mr. Pepys a new proposal of one Du Porto's about victualling the army.

AUGUST 3, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Referred to the King's counsel⁵ in the civil law the case of a Dutchman now brought to the Board by the Lord Privy Seal, who has unhappily been in some wise concerned where a subject of the King's lost his life.

The weekly account of the Officers of the Navy read, touching the progress of the new ships, wherein his

¹ MS. 'alone.'

² Comptroller of the treasurer's accounts, attending as one of the officers of the navy.

³ MS. 'accepts'; *Margin*: 'My Lord Brouncker's acception to it.'

⁴ Immediately.

⁵ MS. 'Councill.'

Majesty and their Lordships call earnestly upon them for their utmost care in the saving of time in dispatch of the said ships. Upon which the said Officers do declare that timber is everywhere drawing into his Majesty's yards as fast as may be this season, and the stop removed which was occasioned thereto by Sir Thomas Barnadiston¹ in Suffolk.

Lay up all the 1st-rates but the St. Michael, and the 2nd but the Royal Katherine, which are still to wait the issue of peace or war.

A letter of the Officers of the Navy read and agreed to, proposing a master-caulker and other persons to be employed at Port Mahon; the America, which is now going with stores thither, being to be manned out of the ships that are to be discharged.

Another letter from them read, about their bargain for transporting the horses, wherein all they proposed is approved, and must be kept in hand till we have certain news of war or peace, which his Majesty seems to expect an account of to-morrow; But in case the horses do go over, the N[avy] O[fficers] shall be excused the trouble of providing the horse-meat.

Mr. Pepys presenting to the Board the new proposal of De Porto for victualling of the army abroad,² and offering that this with the rest may be now put into the hands of Mr. Brisbane,³ who is now entertained as Secretary to the Lords of the Committee for the business of the Army, the same was agreed to and ORDERED.

The Officers of the Navy being demanded their opinion touching the present state of works to be done to the London⁴; Answered, that with money the same may be performed in 5 months, and a dock thereby freed for other service. But if not done now, will not be done this 12 months. Upon which it was recommended to the Treasurer of the Navy to solicit with all the care he can for money for the dispatch of this work.

¹ MS. 'Bernadiston.' The eldest son of Sir Thomas Barnardiston of Ketton; he had succeeded to his father's baronetcy in 1669 (*D. N. B.*, iii. 246).

² See 1st August.

³ Mr. John Brisbane, judge-advocate of the fleet.

⁴ The London was a 1st-rate, built in 1670.

The petition of Mrs. Baker, widow of Captain Baker, late commander of the Portsmouth, being read ; ORDERED to be read again with favour when my Lord Treasurer shall be present.

Captain Carverth, now commander of the Greenwich, praying (upon pretence of his being now at sea in that ship) that his wages lately earned in the Francis may be presently¹ paid, without staying for his coming in to give account of his compliance with the Lord Admiral's Instructions during his command of the Francis ; the same was denied, he being near home, and having had opportunity at his late being in town of satisfying the Officers of the Navy therein.

Upon the petition of the two Brownes, prisoners ; ORDERED, that they be discharged and sent to work at Chatham.

A letter read from the Officers of [the] N[avy], accompanying 2 estimates, one for the charge of repairing the London and the other for the making of a passage through the wall at Woolwich from the King's yard to the sand-pits,² which estimates were approved and signed.

The Foresight, being very leaky, ordered to come home.

ORDERED, That the Sarah fireship have a master appointed to her, according to the establishment some time since made³ of allowing masters to all fireships.

Send for the soldiers from Maidstone.

A petition being read from the wife of one Cole, a cook, praying that his wages due from his Majesty might be paid to redeem him from captivity ; The same was agreed to.

Gault's case⁴ once more heard, and without any resolution arrived.at therein.

AUGUST 6, 1678

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys proposing to his Majesty and my Lords the considering timelily of the number and rates of the ships

¹ Immediately.

³ See p. 562 above.

² See p. 441 above.

⁴ See 31st. July.

requisite to be kept abroad the ensuing winter upon presumption of the continuance of peace with France, now looked for, and the war with Algier, in order, among other things, to his Majesty's coming quickly to determination what and how many ships will be then left to be as speedily paid off as may be, to prevent growing charge; ORDERED, that a project of a winter's fleet be prepared by Mr. Pepys, consisting of 25¹ ships, whereof 5 3rd-rates and 12 4th to be employed in the Straits, 3 or 4 in the West Indies and Guinea, 20 to answer all occasions in the Soundings, Ireland, and the Channel, whereof 4 to be 3rd-rates.

Together with 8 fireships at home and abroad, besides the yachts and sloops, with the charge of the whole.

RESOLVED, That the vessels taken up lately by the Officers of the Navy for the transporting of horses be discharged.

RESOLVED, that a meeting of the Admiralty be held on Thursday morning next, and that Mr. Pepys be preparing in the mean time the project before mentioned.

My Lord Treasurer to have a speedy account given him of the charge of paying off the 1st and 2nd-rate ships.

RESOLVED, to send away 4 of the 5 ships designed for the Soundings, notwithstanding that the ships expected from the East Indies are some or all of them come in.

AUGUST 8, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

This meeting being principally designed for the taking into consideration the discharging the supernumerary ships now abroad above what will be necessary to be continued in charge upon the conclusion of the peace, Mr. Pepys did, according to order, present his Majesty

¹ There is something wrong with the arithmetic here. Perhaps the 25 ships included only those of the six rates, and not hired ships and smaller vessels. The figure 25 is repeated in the margin.

and their Lordships with a particular account of the whole number of ships now abroad, with their several respective stations and services as where and upon which they now are, as well those whose charge is allotted by the Parliament for the King to bear as those which they have taken to themselves. Which account, together with a project of a fleet to be kept forth according to the directions given the last meeting for answering the war with Algier and the other occasions being provided for notwithstanding the peace with France, were read ; As also a paper prepared by the O[fficers of the] N[avy] containing computations of the sums of money required for paying off the ships to be discharged.

Upon which my Lord Treasurer was pleased to declare that he would endeavour with all speed to provide money for paying off the 1st and 2nd-rate ships and then the hired merchantmen, but that there will be a necessity that no other works, either new or old (saving the new ships), be gone in hand with by the Officers of the Navy that may occasion the calling for any of the money to answer other uses which he expected to meet with so much difficulty in the raising of for the payment of these ships ; Adding also, upon that consideration, that some of the workmen of the yard[s] must be dismissed as fast as money can be got for paying them off, for that he otherwise feared that if the charge of workmen should remain as it is, money would not be found to pay them.

Nevertheless, upon the Officers of the N[avy] their opening to his Majesty the condition of the London and the necessity of having her works dispatched, with respect as well to the ship itself as the general service of his Majesty in having the dock cleared wherein she is ; It was RESOLVED, that her works should be accordingly dispatched, but no other (either new or old as before) to be gone in hand with without special order.

ORDERED, that the Officers of the Navy do endeavour, at their first convenience, to speak with the owners of the several hired merchantmen, and bring them down as low as they can in their demands for the freight of their said ships for the little time and small service his Majesty has had from them.

The laying up of the 3 flag-ships at Portsmouth come

this day under fresh debate,¹ with intimation given by Mr. Pepys of ² Sir Thomas Allin's objections to it, which were considered, and answered so as that it was thought fit to adhere to the former resolutions of having them laid up there; Together with the French Ruby which is now there, and that the rest of the 2nd-rates be laid up at Chatham.

RESOLVED also, that the hired merchantmen should be delivered back to their owners as fast as may be, saving what (if any) may be found of more advantage to his Majesty to keep abroad upon any particular services than to employ his Majesty's own ships thereon.

Falmouth and Cadiz to be stopped in their being made victualling-ports.

A letter from the Officers of the N[avy] to Mr. Pepys read, complaining of the badness of some provisions, and the same ordered to be remembered when upon any others of the like kind the victuallers of the n[avy] shall be called upon to give account of the same.

AUGUST 10, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Master of the Ordnance; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

A request being made by Major Halsall³ for being supplied from the navy with a boat for the use of his castle, Mr. Pepys observed to his Majesty and their Lordships that the supplying of castles with boats from the navy was a matter that lies under great exception from the Officers of the Navy as to the regularity of it. Upon which the granting of the said Major's request was respite until that whole matter, and the regulation made or to be made thereon, should be brought before them and adjusted.

A motion being made for the sending of some soldiers to Tangier, and the difficulty proposed of getting them raised here, the debate touching the method of raising them was ordered to be respite for a day or two in

¹ See 20th July.

² MS. 'to.'

³ *Margin*: 'Halsall.' Major James Halsall was governor of Calshot Castle on Southampton Water.

expectation of some more certain account of the peace, about which some doubtfulness seems to be, by news arrived this day concerning it.

A letter read from the Governor of Barbadoes,¹ advising that another ship may be sent thither to relieve the Constant Warwick; which was ordered to be taken into consideration as soon as it should be seen what ships will be paid off and what kept abroad, by the Lord Treasurer's being able to provide money to discharge such as are to be paid off, which was recommended by the Board to his Lordship's care.

RESOLVED, that there being nothing to be objected to the discharging of the French lieutenant lately mentioned² as brought in by the Dover, he being but an inferior officer, and having by his examination given us in writing all the information to be expected from him, He be forthwith discharged.

A particular given to my Lord Treasurer of the names of the great ships ordered to be first discharged, with a computation of the sums of money necessary thereto; His Lordship signifying to the Board his purpose of giving their Lordships and the Officers of the Navy an account of his readiness by money to go on to the discharge of any others as he shall from time to time be enabled thereto.

RESOLVED, that the Dartmouth be ordered to take in men and guns as soon as she shall be got in readiness for it.

AUGUST 18, 1678

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Much debate had, touching the immediate making of provision for the transporting of horse now designed for Antwerp, the Lord Feversham³ and Mr. Brisbane then attending, which ended in a direction for an adjustment of all circumstances relating thereto to be made

¹ Sir Jonathan Atkins.

² See 20th July.

³ Louis Duras, second Earl of Feversham, had succeeded to the earldom in 1677. In July 1678 he had been sent on a secret mission to Flanders; see *D. N. B.*, xvi. 247.

by the Lord Feversham, upon conference with the Officers of the Navy to be had thereon in London.

A letter being read from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] touching the lowest terms they can bring the owners of the hired merchantmen to ¹; RESOLVED, that the said merchantmen should be discharged as soon as may be upon those terms, in case better cannot be procured for his Majesty.

Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty and the Board that, besides the gross ² of the ships now remaining in pay at sea for want of money to discharge them, there were two, namely, the Leopard and Guernsey, some time since returned from the Straits, which lay there also in pay undischarged for the same reason; RESOLVED, that there being no moneys in readiness to pay them off, the former's company should be transferred into the Happy Return, along with Sir William Poole, their commander, who is designed back to the Straits in the said ship Happy Return, and the latter (as being a good sailer) should be continued in service at sea, where ships of that rate are wanting.

AUGUST 25, 1678

[At Windsor. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys gives an account of the readiness of the vessels provided for transportation of horses to Flanders; But RESOLVED, that the horses should be by no means embarked till the wind comes fair for the immediate carrying them away.

A motion being made, at the instance of the Dutch Ambassador, for the bailing of a subject of the States lately taken into custody with others concerned in the murder of a subject of his Majesty's ³; RESOLVED, that his Majesty's answer therein shall be signified to the Ambassador by one of the Secretaries of State.

Notice taken by Mr. Pepys of frequent advice given

¹ See 8th August.

² *I.e.*, the bulk, the greater number.

³ See 3rd August.

him from commanders of ships now abroad of their being undermanned for answering any service for their ships in case they should be called thereto, the same arising from the stop some time since put to their completing their manning in order to the preventing the unnecessary increase of charge upon those ships which were fitted forth upon the score of the expected war with France ; It was AGREED, that forasmuch as the said ships cannot for want of money be presently paid off, regard should be had to their completing their manning, so as may enable them, during their stay abroad, to answer any ordinary services they may be called to, As also to secure them against any danger by weather, surprises, or otherwise.

A[n] account being given of a subject of his Majesty's belonging to the Kitchen yacht lately killed at Cadiz in a fray, and it appearing that it happened upon an occasion of debauchery unfit for his Majesty's protection ; RESOLVED, that the matter take its issue by the ordinary course at law to which it's said to be put there, without his Majesty's interposing himself at all therein.

An estimate from the Officers of the Navy presented to the Board of the charge of transporting 1600 horse to Antwerp being read, and my Lord Treasurer noting to his Majesty that the same is to be made good by moneys to be advanced ; ORDERED, that the same be referred back to the said Officers to receive such abatement as they can make therein upon the score of the said moneys being to be so advanced.

Mr. Pepys laying it before his Majesty and their Lordships, as a matter of great importance to the future peace and satisfaction of his sea commanders, that some orders lately sent to the Governor of Portsmouth from his Majesty by Mr. Secretary Coventry may have a time set for their being reconsidered, in reference to a superiority and jurisdiction seeming to be thereby granted, beyond all precedent, and to the diminution of the honour due to the Lord Admiral of England and the dignity of his Majesty's Royal ships and flags (as the same is now complained of by all the flag-officers in present employment and the commanders of his Majesty's ships with them), in reference to the giving of salutes

and setting of the watch at Portsmouth, wherein Mr. Pepys humbly offered that his Majesty would be pleased to assign a time when his said officers and himself, in right of the navy, might be heard, before his Majesty's said orders by Mr. Secretary Coventry should be admitted as conclusive against the just pretensions therein ; His Majesty was pleased to resolve and declare that a hearing should be appointed upon this subject-matter before my Lords of the Admiralty, the Officers of the Navy and Fleet, together with the Governor of Portsmouth being present, so soon as an opportunity can be got for the same by his Majesty's return to London, and that in the mean time his orders before mentioned shall not be construed to prejudice the navy in any part thereof.

Upon a letter then read from Sir Thomas Allin to that purpose, It was RESOLVED, that in the payment of the ships off that are going now to be discharged, their officers be allowed according to the establishment for time of war abroad, viz., as to the number of the said officers.

RESOLVED, that the opinion of Sir John Kempthorne,¹ upon advising with the rest of the flags at Portsmouth, be demanded about the number of guns fit to be kept on board the great ships now laid up there, for their security in harbour.

Mr. Pepys gave their Lordships an account of the instructions given to the Norwich, now bound to Guinea, answerable to what the Hunter had last on the same occasion ; which was approved of by their Lordships.

RESOLVED, that the horses going over be all landed at Antwerp.

A letter of the 23rd August from the O[fficers] of the N[avy], about sending of a person to Tangier as agent for the affairs of the navy there, read and approved of, and Mr. St. Michel,² now agent at Deal, being proposed by his Majesty for the employment ; RESOLVED, that he be dispatched upon the said employment to Tangier as soon as he conveniently may to be dispensed with

¹ Resident commissioner of the navy at Portsmouth ; see *D. N. B.*, xxx. 397.

² *Margin* : 'Mr. Mitchell.' Balthazar St. Michel, muster-master at Deal. was Pepys's brother-in-law.

from that at Deal, till upon the determination of this at Tangier he shall be at liberty to return to the same.

ORDERED, that Sir John Holmes being now paid off in the Royal Charles, where he was rear-admiral of the fleet, he return to the Mountagu and resume his command again in the Downs.

RESOLVED, that the Oxford be reserved for the transporting of my Lord Colepeper¹ to Virginia.

Mr. Pepys desiring direction from his Majesty and their Lordships whether, for the present lessening of charge of the complements of men now borne upon the ships abroad and which shall be kept abroad, be reduced from that middle complement to that of peace²; RESOLVED in the negative, but that they be kept as they now are till the business of peace or war come to some further certainty.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1678

[At Windsor. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

It being in proposition that some stores should be provided at Plymouth for the supply of the ships now to the westward; RESOLVED, that the same be stopped, it being intended that the said ships remain in that station no longer than the Straits fleet, which is daily expected, shall come in.

Upon discourse had touching the providing of men for the manning of the few ships now going out, the O[fficers of the] N[avy] do give it as their opinion that, the number of men so to be provided not being great, it would be in many respects more convenient to press them out of merchant-ships than do it by turning men over out of the King's.

RESOLVED, that as³ the ships to the westward shall

¹ MS. 'Culpepper.' Thomas, second baron Colepeper of Thoresway, had been appointed governor of Virginia in 1675, but he did not actually go there until 1680 (*Complete Peerage*, ed. Vicary Gibbs, iii. 364).

² See p. 572 above.

³ MS. 'as to.'

have occasion to take in victuals there, they do take off what has been provided by the victuallers at Falmouth.

DETERMINED, that the horse to be transported for Antwerp be shipped off on Tuesday or Wednesday next, and that the convoy that accompanies them proceed no further than Flushing.¹

RESOLVED, that Captain Tapson,² commander of the Adventure, having for his Majesty's advantage stayed some time in the West Country for the gathering his complement of men, which he is said to have brought entire from thence along with him to his ship,³ be paid from the date of his commission, though he did not immediately lodge on board his ship³ according to the strictness of his instructions.

A letter read and approved of from Sir John Kempthorne⁴ about the ordinary guard at Portsmouth, and DETERMINED, that there shall be two fireships kept there for the better security of that place.

Recommended also to the Officers of the Navy the consideration of the laying of a chain there.

The said Officers' advice approved of for the graving of the yachts only, without tallowing them; And that the repairs of the Yarmouth be gone in hand with.

At the motion of the Officers of the Navy, it was this day again RESOLVED, that Mr. St. Michel⁵ be dispatched away as soon as may be, upon the employment lately proposed by them⁶ for a person to be sent as agent for the affairs of his Majesty's navy at Tangier.

SEPTEMBER 8, 1678

[At Windsor. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Duke of Monmouth; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Two 4th-rates, viz., the Swallow and Reserve, appointed to convoy the Canary fleet, and to attend them at the Canaries during their stay there.

¹ MS. 'Vluishing.'

² MS. 'Tapsham'; *Margin*: 'Topsham.'

³ MS. 'ships.'

⁴ See note on p. 603 above.

⁵ MS. 'St. Michell'; *Margin*: 'Mitchell.'

⁶ See 25th August.

RESOLVED also, that 3 or 4 small frigates be appointed to attend the herring-fishery this season.

RESOLVED, upon some advices from abroad since the last meeting, that the vessels taken up for transporting of the horse to Antwerp be all discharged.

A demand of £49 being presented by the Duke of Monmouth, with a bill of particulars of the charge of bringing over from France several parcels of soldiers discharged out of the King of France's army, the same was ordered to be paid by the Officers of the Navy, and the ketch ordered to be recalled which has for some time since been employed between Calais and Dover upon this service.

A motion being made from Mr. Pearse, Chirurgeon-General of the Fleet, in behalf of the chirurgeons employed in the ships now to be discharged, that they may have some satisfaction for their expense in fitting of their chests beyond what by the shortness of their voyages their pay and imprest will answer; ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do report to his Majesty and the Lords what was done on the like occasion at the sudden closure of the last war.

Captain Royden, late commander of the Sweepstakes, presenting a letter in order to his justification in the matters for which he was discharged from the said employment by the sentence of a court-martial and incapacitated from any future command, The same was refused to be read, in right to the judgment passed upon him by the said court.

The petition of Captain John Lloyd for the benefit of his Majesty's establishment as a half-pay commander being read, was granted as due to him.

RESOLVED, that instructions be sent to Sir John Narbrough to bend his whole force and care now to the business of Algier, but with particular caution to be given him by Mr. Pepys to continue a watchfulness towards the French.

Mr. Pepys moving his Majesty and their Lordships that, the time of year calling for it, as well as saving the charge, they would be pleased to consider afresh the project of the fleet ¹ formerly agreed upon to be kept

¹ See 6th and 8th August.

forth, and the discharging of the ships to be laid up of those which remain still abroad over and above what will answer the said project; The project was read and approved of, with some question only made whether it was sufficient or no. But my Lord Treasurer was pleased to declare himself wholly disabled, by the necessities of his land-forces, to proceed to the discharging of the ships that are to be paid off, But nevertheless directed that Mr. Pepys should prepare a calculation of the standing charge of the project alone, apart from the growing charge of the ships that exceed the project.

The Officers of the Navy are ordered to overlook that Serjeant-Trumpet's bill for some kettle-drums sent to the flag-ships in the Straits, and see the same satisfied.

The Officers of the Navy's progress on the new ships read, and the dispatch of the works thereof earnestly recommended to them.

By the advice of the Officers of the N[avy], upon consideration had of the importance of having some proof made of the effects of this new method of building (introduced by his Majesty) with upright stems, before the same be adventured on too far upon ships of so much consequence as those now in building, And it being also considered that the difference of charge will not be much to his Majesty between the setting forth of one of the new ships so built of the 3rd-rate and the keeping out of the Mountagu; RESOLVED, that the Mountagu be laid up, and the Captain¹ (to be manned out of her) to be set forth in her room under Sir John Holmes.

Sir Robert Robinson and the rest of the ships to come away when the Straits fleet comes in.

Mr. Pepys moving for some consideration to be had to the safety of the merchants' vessels gone this year to Newfoundland; ANSWERED, that they being but few, and going away not only without leave but contrary to order, his Majesty thought it not fit to send any convoy after them.

He also laying before his Majesty the offence which some people do take at the few men lately ordered to be pressed, and the occasion said to be taken therefrom

¹ One of the new 3rd-rates just finished.

of the colliers raising the price of coals, besides the applications made to him for protections, which he desires wholly to avoid the giving and has therefore wholly refused it, for preventing his being censured as contributing to the advice for pressing of men in order to his private advantage ; It was nevertheless RESOLVED, by the same advice which was formerly given thereon by the Officers of the Navy, that the King's occasions must be answered by pressing. But that the press be enjoined to be used, as the warrants do already run, only upon ships inward-bound.

SEPTEMBER 15, 1678

[At Windsor. *Present*: The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys presenting to the Board some press warrants according to the late order, the same were signed.

Upon his moving also that, for the lessening of his Majesty's charge, the complements of his ships here at home might be reduced to that of peace, The same was allowed of, the state of affairs now admitting it.

A request being made by Señor ¹ Barbosa, secretary to the late Portugal Ambassador deceased, that the persons attending the body of the said Ambassador to Portugal in the Adventure might be victualled out of the ship at the King's charge during their passage ; Mr. Pepys shewed that no such practice had ever been allowed of in the case of any foreign ambassador, and that the same might be of chargeable consequence to his Majesty. Upon which it was rejected.

ORDERED, That a mutinous seaman belonging to Sir William Poole in the Leopard be tried by a court-martial.

Mr. Pepys reporting (in obedience to a late order ²) that at the sudden closure of the last war with Holland, reparation was made to captains and chirurgeons for their charge of fitting themselves for the sea, and their sudden discharge, allowance was made to them of pay

¹ MS. 'Seignor.'

² See 8th September,

as if they had been abroad six months ; RESOLVED, that the same be now done in reference to those officers which shall now be discharged within a shorter time than that of 6 months.

RESOLVED, that all the fireships now abroad and fitting forth be discharged to 8.

The proposal of the O[fficers of the] N[avy] agreed to for the timbers to be put in hand for the building another 2nd-rate ship at Deptford.

The like for Sir John N[arbrough's] taking off the provisions at Cadiz.

The like touching the proposal of the sale¹ of the *Revenge*.

His Majesty designing the Duke of Grafton² to go to sea as a volunteer in the *Happy Return* with Sir William Poole ; RESOLVED, that some accommodations be provided for him of cabins, etc., within the charge of £20 or £30 at which the same are valued.

Mr. Pepys, according to his Majesty's and their Lordships' late directions,³ presented them this day with a particular account how much the ships required to answer the project for future service does amount to, viz., to about £400,000⁴ per annum, besides the ordinary estimate of the navy and all other extraordinary charges ; And by another calculation shewn, that the ships now abroad, above what are required to make good that project and consequently lie under an unnecessary growing charge, will require £70,000 presently to pay off. But it appeared from my Lord Treasurer's discourse, that for want of money nothing could now be expected for the present lessening of that growing charge, And that therefore the determination of any further ships to be paid off must be respited till his Majesty's and their Lordships' coming to London, which would now be very speedily.

¹ MS. 'state' ; but the margin reads 'sale.'

² Henry Fitzroy, first Duke of Grafton, son of Charles II. and Barbara Villiers, was now 15 years old, and was destined for the sea. In 1682 he succeeded Prince Rupert as vice-admiral of England, see *D. N. B.*, xix. 205.

³ See 8th September.

⁴ MS. '£4,000,000.'

SEPTEMBER 22, 1678

[At Windsor. *Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

A letter read from Sir J[ohn] N[arbrough] of the 17th August from Tangier, wherein among other particulars an account is given, greatly to his Majesty's satisfaction and to the satisfaction of my Lords, touching the present condition of the Mole to careen the lesser frigates there, and capacity, with the help of the hulk, to do the whole business of careening the King's ships without their being forced to go elsewhere for it as they have always hitherto been, at great charge and loss of time. Upon which it was ORDERED, that a hulk be provided for the service of that place with all the speed that may be.

An account being given from Captain Story, commander of the Portsmouth, and lately returned from the Straits, that the said ship was run aground to her great danger, her master having at the same time charge of her; RESOLVED, that the said master be taken and kept under custody and tried for the same.

Another letter, from Sir Robert Robinson, being read, giving an account of a falling out between Captain Langston, commander of the Bristol, and Captain Booth, commander of the Adventure, as also of Langston's irregularity in putting up 3 lights in the presence of Sir Robert Robinson, commander-in-chief, and a duel¹ between Captain Skelton, commander of the Stavoreen, and Lieutenant Corbett, a volunteer in the Newcastle, Captain Lhostein² commander, (who is also lately come from the Straits); ORDERED, That each of the said particulars be strictly inquired into, And that the said ships the Portsmouth and Newcastle be ordered to be paid off and laid up so soon as my Lord Treasurer shall have money in readiness to do the same, with direction given to Mr. Pepys that in the mean time neither they nor any other of the ships to be paid off be unnecessarily called in, so as to give opportunity of clamour by the

¹ MS. 'dewell.'

² MS. 'L'hostine.' Captain Augustus Lhostein was a naturalised Swede (Charnock, *Biog. Nav.*, i. 398, and *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1673, pp. 235, 365, 485). See also p. 345 *n.* above.

seamen or occasion of having their lying in port unpaid publicly observed, until his Lordship shall be provided with money to discharge them.

RESOLVED, that the Assurance, as soon as may be, be also discharged, and her commander Captain Lovell returned to his yacht the Katherine.

RESOLVED also, that for saving his Majesty's charge the Monmouth yacht be laid up so soon as she shall be brought back from the coast of Ireland, where she has long been.

RESOLVED also, that a vessel be hired for the fetching over from Ostend the horses and baggage of the Duke of Monmouth,¹ Lord Mulgrave,² and Colonel Slingsby.

RESOLVED likewise, that a ketch be provided by the Officers of the Navy to accompany my Lord Colepeper³ to Virginia and attend upon his Majesty's service under the direction of the said Lord there, as the Quaker ketch does now at the Leeward Islands under the direction of Colonel Stapleton,⁴ but that this ketch bear as few men in constant pay upon her, she being to be supplied from time to time with men upon extraordinary occasions from on shore by the Lord Colepeper.³

A letter read from Sir Robert Robinson, shewing the little or no good at all had by the masters of the merchantships for whose safety his Majesty was graciously pleased to send him with some others of his ships to the mouth of the Channel in order to his looking out for and bringing them safe to their ports; whereof Mr. Pepys is directed to demand an account of such of their owners as he can find out.

A letter being read from the Officers of the Navy, praying directions about an allowance of bounty money to the relations of persons slain in the present war against Algier, which they observe their being not able to allow for want of certificates from Sir John Narbrough touching

¹ In February 1678 Monmouth had been sent over with a small force to protect Ostend against the French, and had returned in August (*D. N. B.*, li. 30).

² MS. 'Mulgroff.' On John Sheffield, third Earl of Mulgrave, see *D. N. B.*, lii. 13.

³ MS. 'Culpepper'; see note on p. 604 above.

⁴ Colonel William Stapleton was governor of the Leeward Islands.

the persons so slain ; RESOLVED, that the said allowance of his Majesty's bounty in this case be made, and Sir John Narbrough writ to for to see that certificates be for the time to come sent hither to enable the relations of the persons slain to demand the same,

AGREED to the proposal of the Officers of the Navy, that the Europe merchantman, now by their advice hired for the service of the Barbadoes in the room of the Constant Warwick, be reputed as a 5th-rate and furnished with guns accordingly.

The Officers of the Navy presenting an account of victuals delivered from the navy at Virginia to one Needler, commissary to the land-forces there, for the just disposal whereof he stands chargeable to his Majesty ; ORDERED, that the said account be put into the hands of the Duke of Monmouth, to the end the said Needler may be duly charged therewith.

Mr. Pepys reminding their Lordships of their determination the last meeting that their designing of any more ships to be paid off was, for want of money, to be respite to their coming to London, and therefore moving that Sir Robert Robinson and the ships with him returned from the westward being not capable of present payment off, he may be put again into the exercise of the command in chief at Portsmouth ; the same was judged fit and ORDERED accordingly.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1678

[At Whitehall. *Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Chancellor ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

The usual account read from the Officers [of the] Navy touching their progress upon the new ships, and after some discourse thereon by his Majesty and my Lords touching what (if anything) might be done more towards the furtherance of the same than what is done, The same was earnestly pressed upon the said Officers to see effected.

Mr. Pepys moves for the rendering the instructions to his Majesty's convoys more particular than they have

hitherto been in the case of our herring-fishery,¹ by assigning more strictly the limits within which they are to be approached by the Dutch or other foreign vessels, of whose interrupting our fishermen's complaints are found in all times to have been made. Wherein the Officers of the Navy are desired to look out for what intelligence they can get, as well as the Secretary of the Admiralty from ancient papers; and the debate thereof put off till Monday morning next.

Which time was also appointed for those masters of merchantmen to be summoned to attend his Majesty about whom Sir Robert Robinson lately complained² for their neglect of his Majesty's grace to them in his convoy.

Mr. Pepys put his Majesty and my Lords in mind of their respite to his Majesty's coming to town³ the appointment of more ships of the many remaining in growing charge, above the project for the winter service, to be paid off; Which my Lord Treasurer was pleased to say he would take the most effectual and speedy care which he could for the providing of money for.

A petition read from the Canary Company, for the addition of one 5th-rate more to the two 4th formerly appointed to their convoy, upon their apprehension of the Turks coming abroad, etc.; Which was granted, and the Dartmouth assigned thereto.

JANUARY 4, 1678-9

[At the Robes Chamber, in the morning. *Present*: Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Master of the Ordnance; Mr. Speaker; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

After the interruption given to the meeting of my Lords of the Admiralty by their daily attendance in Parliament ever since September last,⁴ His Majesty and

¹ *Margin*: 'Yarmouth fishery.'

² See 22nd September.

³ See 15th September.

⁴ This was the period of the excitement over the Popish plot. Oates was summoned before the privy council on September 28th; Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey was found murdered on October 17th; and parliament met on October 21st. From its meeting to the prorogation on December 30th, parliamentary politics must have been absorbing.

their Lordships were pleased, upon the Parliament's prorogation on Monday last, being the 30th of December, to resume their said meetings, and accordingly this day began the same at the Robes.

A letter read from Captain Wetwang from Ostend, giving an account of his proceedings in the employment he was lately sent thither upon by his Majesty, for the making provision for the bringing back his Majesty's forces from Flanders. Upon which it appearing that Sir Samuel Clarke¹ declared himself in want of some orders from my Lord General the Duke of Monmouth ; It was RESOLVED by his Majesty, that the said orders should be dispatched away from my Lord General by the yacht that brought this letter, Wherein notice is also taken of some difficulties made by the Spaniards in permitting our men to pass through their quarters to the place of their embarkation.

The account from the N[avy] O[fficer]s of the progress of the new ships read, and notice taken by Mr. Speaker to his Majesty and my Lords that we are at this day at a full stand in all other works but the new ships, for want of money. Upon which also a long letter from the O[fficer]s [of the] N[avy], bearing date the 3rd instant, was read, containing several particular and pressing instances of their want of money to enable them to carry on his Majesty's service. To which Mr. Speaker said much, declaring that he had already from time to time laid every particular thereof before my Lord Treasurer, in order to his being supplied with money to answer the same ; Mr. Pepys also giving his Majesty an account of his having this morning attended my Lord Treasurer upon the same occasion of acquainting him with some of the wants of money the navy now lies under, and particularly that which relates to the victualling and the victuallers of the navy, from whom Mr. Hayter² producing a letter upon that subject, the same was read, and Sir Anthony Deane,³ as the proper officer concerned therein, opened it largely to his Majesty and my Lords that if the victuallers be not forthwith

¹ Knighted 22nd February, 1672-3. Commander-in-chief of the forces at Ostend.

² One of the clerks of the acts.

³ Comptroller of the victualling.

satisfied, the ships both abroad and at home must (whatever the occasion of his Majesty's service be) be forced to come in for want of victuals. Upon which Mr. Speaker said he had acquainted my Lord Treasurer fully with that particular, and that what his Lordship can possibly do therein he is certain he will; And upon the whole debate of this and the rest of the heads of the said letter from the Officers of the Navy, the Speaker is directed to move my Lord Treasurer for a meeting extraordinary to be had at this place before his Majesty this very afternoon, for the more fully discoursing the same again with his Lordship.

After which Mr. Pepys moving several other things relating to the charge of the navy, as well upon the ships abroad as those at home, the same were respited to the meeting in the afternoon.

The Lord Privy Seal taking notice of some advice he had received from the Straits of the evils heretofore mentioned arising from the sheathing his Majesty's ships with lead, by the destruction of the rudder-irons¹ of the ships so sheathed; the same was afresh recommended to the consideration of the Officers of the Navy.

As also is the Treasurer of the Navy's accounts now before them, at the motion of Mr. Speaker.

The same likewise is, touching the backwardness which Mr. Pepys represents his Majesty's works at this day and for some time past to have and now lie under at Chatham, by reason of some public disagreements and misunderstandings between Sir Richard Beach the Commissioner and Mr. Phineas Pett the master-shipwright there.

JANUARY 4, 1678[—9]

[At the Robes Chamber, in the afternoon. *Present*: The King; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Master of the Ordnance; Mr. Speaker; Chancellor of the Exchequer; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson. Navy Officers attending.]

Their Lordships being met and his Majesty present with the Lord Treasurer, according to their resolution

¹ MS. 'rother irons.'

in the morning, Mr. Pepys by their command opens what had then been under debate, and particularly the letters of the Officers and Victuallers of the Navy and the discourses therein, together with what was then further offered by him and referred to this afternoon, Viz., some representations under the hands of the Officers of the Navy relating to the general wants thereof under 5 heads of estimates of the respective sums wanting thereto (which were at the same time in usual form signed by my Lords), the abstract whereof is hereunder annexed. To which Mr. Pepys added a particular account of the number, names, stations, and monthly growing charge, of every of his Majesty's ships and vessels now abroad, as well those heretofore taken into the Parliament's charge and still continued in pay for want of money to discharge them, As those reserved to his Majesty to bear the charge of, humbly submitting it to his Majesty and my Lords that consideration might be had how the said charge might be with most speed put an end to and the ships brought in, in order to their being timelily put into a condition of further service, which by their having been long abroad would now require much time for the doing, they being very foul, much out of repair and stores, and those particularly in the Straits requiring a great deal of time before they can be sent for and brought home, and others sent in their room in case the war with Algier shall continue and [be] prosecuted by a fleet in the Mediterranean, besides the backwardness expressed by the victuallers in all their proceedings. Upon which, and upon much discourse on each of the said heads, my Lord Treasurer largely opens to his Majesty and my Lords the want of money occasioned by the great expense upon the land-forces continuing still in pay, to the rendering his Majesty's treasure wholly unable to answer all the occasions demanding supplies from the same, And thereupon shews to his Majesty, according to the apprehension he then had of it, that little of the letter from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] read this morning, and which was now read again, required any great haste in the answering, saving that which related to the victuallers, about which particular he had had special discourse this morning with

Mr. Pepys and Sir Anthony Deane ; That about £31,000 was by his measures the whole sum at this day in arrear to them from the King upon the service of the last year, whereof £5000 they had now of late actually received, £5000 more would be paid them in this month, and as much in the next, so that his real apprehension was that the complaint of the victuallers proceeded from nothing else than a desire of getting themselves clear of their contract with the King. His Lordship was pleased to observe that all matters of money were at this day very hard with the King, and allow[ed] that he believed they were so also with them, But that nevertheless never was so little due to the victuallers of the navy at the very close of the year as the present arrear to these gentlemen is. To which the victuallers having suggested that the account of their said arrears is not true stated, his Lordship proposes to them (then called in attending) that the true state thereof should be adjusted between them and Sir Anthony Deane against Monday morning next, and that he would then bring an account to the King of what he can do towards the satisfying them and the answering the other wants of the navy. Upon which the said victuallers expressed a good degree of content, promising his Majesty and my Lords to withdraw forthwith the present stop at the same time complained of by Mr. Pepys to have been by them lately put to the issuing more of petty-warrant victuals to the ships at Portsmouth.

After which Mr. Pepys informing his Majesty and their Lordships that by the sickliness of the season he had received frequent advice of the ill condition of several of his Majesty's ships now abroad for want of men, by reason of their sickness and the running away of some for want of their pay for relief of themselves and families, and thereupon desiring directions touching the enabling of commanders by press warrants (in case they cannot otherwise do it) to complete their complements in order to the safe keeping of their ships and in condition of service until there could be money provided for the discharging of them, upon the score of which want a great part of them had been now continued many months unusefully in pay, and particularly the Cambridge, which had never yet been out of the River since

she was fitted for the sea, besides the Newcastle, which was there also and had long since been ordered to be paid off; It was RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys should continue from time to time to supply the commanders of his Majesty's several ships, as often as they shall have need of it during their continuance abroad (the Newcastle excepted) with necessary orders and press warrants for making up their complements of men, as they should happen to fall short upon any of the occasions before mentioned.

RESOLVED also, according to my Lord Treasurer's proposal, that another meeting of my Lords be held on Monday next.

An estimate of the quantity and value of materials requisite for making good the ordinary repairs and ground-tackle of his Majesty's navy in harbour, for the safe mooring, prevention from decay by the weather, graving one-third part thereof every year, and to repair the buildings, wharfs, cranes, and docks in his Majesty's several dockyards.	£. s. d. 41,434 15 0
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A[n] estimate of the charge of putting all his Majesty's ships now lying up in harbour into a full repair, of building the Royal Oak wreck, of making wet docks for the preservation of masts and boats from decay, going adrift, and embezzlement, of building lodgings for officers and storehouses at Sheerness, and of performing all extraordinary repairs of houses, docks, wharfs, cranes, and fences, needful to be done in and about his Majesty's several dockyards.	93,132 0 0
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An estimate of the quantity and value of provisions wanting in store to complete the rigging and ground-tackle for each of his Majesty's ships now in harbour, and to furnish each of the said ships with 2 suits of sails, and with boatswain's and carpenter's sea stores for 8 months.	13,222 3 4
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An estimate of the quantity and value of provisions wanting for to remain in store as a reserve (after all his Majesty's ships shall be completely fitted and fur- nished with stores for boatswains and carpenters) sufficient for one suit of masts, yards, and sails, one best and ¹ one small bower anchor, two best cables, ² and one-third part of running rigging, and 6 months boatswain's and carpenter's stores for each of his Majesty's ships.	£. s. d. 72,145 16 8
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JANUARY 6, 1678-9

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Speaker; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

After a meeting of my Lords of the Council at the Council Chamber, their Lordships of the Admiralty attended his Majesty according to appointment at the Robes, where Mr. Speaker acquainted the King that my Lord Treasurer had this morning discoursed with Sir Anthony Deane³ and the victuallers, and agreed that their debt of the last year amounts to about £38,000, whereof they have assignments and ready money that will answer £15,000 by the end of February, And that my Lord Treasurer desires till to-morrow morning to adjust with Captain Shales what provision can be made to the satisfaction of the victuallers for the remainder.

His Highness Prince Rupert presenting his Majesty with a petition from Captain Vittles, first boatswain of England as being boatswain of the Royal Sovereign,⁴

¹ MS. 'of.'

² The bower anchors 'are called best and small, not from a difference of size, but as to the bow on which they are placed; starboard being the best bower, and port the small bower. The appropriated cables assume the respective names' (Smyth, *Sailor's Word-book*). It is a question when the bower anchors were made equal. Probably at this date they were not so.

³ Comptroller of the victualling.

⁴ Until the building of the *Britannia* (1739 tons) in 1682, the *Sovereign Royal* (1605 tons) was the largest of the 1st-rates in the royal navy.

praying that according to his right of succession he may be advanced to the place of master attendant now void at Chatham, and his Highness earnestly recommending him to his Majesty's favour therein, His Majesty was pleased to deliver the petition to Mr. Pepys, commanding him to take care that a warrant be prepared for Captain Vittles's being advanced to the said place of master attendant at Chatham.

Upon which, according to the Speaker's motion, this meeting of the Lords was adjourned till to-morrow morning.

JANUARY 7, 1678[-9]

[At 10 in the morning.]

Mr. Pepys attending my Lord Treasurer in order to his knowing his Lordship's readiness for their meeting designed this morning, His Lordship was pleased to say that the victuallers and Sir Anthony Deane were by appointment to attend him this morning, but not being yet come he believed it would be too late to have any meeting this day, and therefore put it off until he had discoursed them, whereof his Lordship would advertise him in order to the intended meeting.

From whence Mr. Pepys repairing to the Robes, where Mr. Speaker and [the] Chancellor of the Exchequer together with the Officers of the Navy attend, they discoursed, head by head, the contents of the said Officers' letter read on Saturday last, wherein it was upon debate made to appear to them by the Officers of the Navy that there was not any one particular therein but called proportionably for ready money equal with that of the victualling, notwithstanding what my Lord Treasurer seemed to think to the contrary, to whom the Speaker and the Chancellor went thereupon directly to discourse upon the same, and satisfy him in the reasonableness of the said Officers' demand, The Chancellor of the Exchequer first taking notice to the said Officers of some seeming irregularity with which my Lord Treasurer was in some degree dissatisfied, in their making this representation¹ to the Lords of the

¹ MS. 'misrepresentation.'

Admiralty before they had done it to the Treasurer of the Navy for his Lordship's being by him informed therein. Which exception was yesterday removed by Mr. Speaker's answering, that he had been before regularly informed thereof by them in discourse and by proper estimates, and that he had in like manner done his part in laying the same before my Lord Treasurer, adding that if he had not been so, he should not have failed of taking due notice to the Officers of the Navy of his being overlooked therein.

JANUARY 8, 1678-9

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Master of the Ordnance; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Mr. Speaker; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers and Victuallers attending.]

Upon my Lord Treasurer's giving notice this morning to Mr. Pepys of his readiness for a meeting of my Lords of the Admiralty this afternoon, the same was by the King's directions forthwith summoned and accordingly held, where his Lordship expressing some dissatisfaction in the proceedings of the O[fficers of the] N[avy], as if the want of money insisted upon in their letter to the Lords of the Admiralty of the 3rd instant had been industriously¹ managed, and urged beyond what the reasons thereof respectively required, his Lordship was pleased to shew, head by head, what he had done, and was able to do more or less, towards the providing money, either in whole or in part, upon each of the said heads, which he admitted to stand in real need of money; And this having done by discourse in general, with a promise of communicating the same in writing more distinctly to the Officers of the Navy for their better guidance, his Lordship was pleased to proceed to the opening the particular case of the victuallers, shewing his Majesty and my Lords that he had digested and proposed to them what they had declared themselves satisfied with, laying

¹ An obsolete form of 'industriously,' which here = 'designedly,' in a bad sense.

before his Majesty's consideration (which was thereupon debated), whether he would think fit to pay them clear off for the last year or no, in regard of the uncertainty which he thinks his Majesty may lie under in their going effectually forward in his service when they shall find themselves clear for what is past, Which his Lordship said he had undertaken to see done by £1000 a week, wherewith they owed themselves to him to be contented to go on to the answering the present moiety of the current year's declaration. Which his Lordship was pleased to add it for his opinion and belief, that the said present moiety now in issuing would prove too much, as being more than the ships would require which the King would think fit to keep abroad this year.

Upon which debate touching the expediency of satisfying the victuallers at once their whole arrear upon the last year's service, Sir Anthony Deane as Comptroller of the Victualling did assent that the King has now and must always have in his possession in England of victuals, cask, and other materials belonging to the victuallers, more than will secure him whatever the said victuallers can, at £1000 per week upon this assignation, ever become possessed of; And thereupon it was RESOLVED, that they should not be discouraged by the King's laying any stop upon the payment of the full sum due to them upon the last year's service, they (upon their being called in) declaring their acceptance of these payments now propounded in full satisfaction for their payments claimable by contract; That they shall send away the whole proportion of the victuals now designed for the Straits within a month from this day, and answer all other demands of victuals upon the current declaration as fast as the King's occasions shall call for the same, interest being to be allowed them for what is in arrear to them from the time they were by contract to have received the same; For the better ascertaining of all which, the Officers of the Navy and they are to consider against the next meeting, and to adjust how and when the victuals designed for the Straits shall be sent away, and the other particulars herein mentioned, both as to payment and performance, put into writing by Captain Shales, now attending, and the same agreed to as the sub-

stance of the resolutions now taken between his Majesty and the victuallers ; Which was accordingly done after the rising of my Lords, as hereunder appears.

After matters thus settled relating to the victualling, my Lord Treasurer was pleased to proceed and say that for such heads of the Navy Officers' letter as he was not now provided for the answering of with money, and which he enumerated to be only these three, viz., a quarter to the yards, the payment off of the Newcastle, and the sending money for allowance to Sir John Narbrough, he would answer them as soon as he could, and hoped that it would not be long first.

His Lordship was further pleased to propose, and recommended it to his Majesty, that there may not upon any consideration be any more repairs of the old ships gone in hand with than what are already in hand until there be a supply of money to defray the charge thereof, it being impossible for him to do it as the case of the Treasury now is, and that it ought therefore also to be considered by the Officers of the Navy, to whom it was then recommended, how some of the hands now at work upon our present repairs, and which therefore cannot be paid for what they now earn, for want of money applicable to that use, may be turned over to the new ships' works for which there is money, or dismissed the service, that their debt may not grow upon the King and they continue working without payment.

Memorandum. That the victuallers in their debates this day urging of some piece of difficulty upon them in the late making the present year's declaration, it was answered they had not yet made use of the last year's declaration ; that the King had frequently made declarations later, is not excluded the making declarations at any time, and that there was yet season enough left for their making provisions for answering a declaration five times as great if it were required with money. To which they insisted not upon the making any reply.

Memorandum. That according to what was herein ordered, Captain Shales did, after the rising of the Lords, put the resolutions herein taken between his Majesty and the victuallers into writing, both as to payments and performances, and the satisfaction of the said victuallers

therein declared by them before the Officers of the Navy and Mr. Pepys, and the paper itself, as it was drawn by Captain Shales, left in Mr. Pepys's hand for future recourse in the words following :—

8th of January, 1678–9

The victuallers of the navy having due to them for the issues of victuals to the King's ships at sea and in harbour the sum of £28,000 or thereabouts more than they have received for the service of the last year ending the 31st December, according to the account thereof prepared by Sir Anthony Deane, knight, Comptroller of the Victuals, and by him presented to the Lord High Treasurer, His Lordship did thereupon propose to the King that the said victuallers might have tallies in course upon the customs for the said sum of £28,000 which would become due and payable about 6 months hence, and in the mean time to have interest allowed them for the said sum ; Also to have £1000 per week from the 1st of this instant January out of the weekly moneys of the navy to support this year's service, according to the declaration transmitted to them.

Provided they would vigorously proceed to provide for the ships at home and in the Mediterranean and elsewhere, which was proposed to the said victuallers by my Lord Chancellor, who desired their plain answer to the two aforesaid points, viz., 1st, Whether they would be content with the payment my Lord Treasurer proposed ; 2nd, Whether they would proceed to the King's service according to their contract and the declarations thereon.

They thereupon made answer, they were content with the payment proposed by my Lord Treasurer, and would not fail to do their parts, but go on vigorously to serve the King in the business under their care as industriously and faithfully as 'twas possible for them or any men else to do.

Drawn by Captain Shales, at the rising of my Lords, in the Robes Chamber, January 8th, 1678[–9], and being read openly in the presence of the Officers and Victuallers of the Navy, was by them mutually agreed to contain the true effects of the resolutions taken this day by his Majesty and my Lords relating

to the affairs of the victualling as they at this day stand between his Majesty and the victuallers ; and the same put into my hand for future recourse.

JANUARY 11, 1678[-9]

[*Present* : The King ; Duke of Monmouth ; Duke of Lauderdale ; Lord Chamberlain ; Lord Craven ; Master of the Ordnance ; Mr. Secretary Coventry ; Mr. Secretary Williamson ; Mr. Speaker ; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Pepys acquainting his Majesty and my Lords with Sir William Poole's miscarriage in going away to the Straits without his convoys, to the exposing them to great hazard ; RESOLVED, that Mr. Pepys do take care that the same be brought to an examination before a court-martial, either with Sir J[ohn] N[arbrough] in the Straits or at his return for England.

A petition of Mr. Cooper, the old officer for sick and wounded seamen, about his arrears, was read, and referred to the Officers of the Navy.

A state was this day presented to the Board from Mr. Pearse the chirurgeon¹ and read, of the present want of provision for sick men in the several ports at this day, And recommended to Mr. Speaker, into whose hands it was put to solicit the same with my Lord Treasurer.

A fresh account was given by Mr. Pepys by particulars of the great number of ships in present pay at sea beyond what there was any apparent present service to be now employed upon, and the growing charge upon the same. Whereunto Mr. Speaker adding some considerations of the fatal consequence of keeping them all longer in pay and victuals by raising their debt above the King's capacity to discharge, and to that Mr. Pepys adding the consideration of the unfitness of those ships which have been so long abroad to answer any real occasions of service that may happen for them in case they shall not be brought home in time to be refitted and cleared,² with their men paid and refreshed, and

¹ Mr. James Pearse, chirurgeon-general of the fleet.

² Possibly in error for 'cleaned.'

therefore making it his humble proposal that at least some of them might be called home from the Straits in order to their being in the way of payment when there shall be money for them ; the same was, upon debate by my Lords, humbly recommended to ¹ his Majesty, who was pleased to say he would advise of it at the Committee of Foreign Affairs.

Their Lordships thereupon fell upon the business of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's pretences to the victualling his Majesty's fleets in the Mediterranean for the present year determining at Michaelmas next, as the same was left at the debate thereon at the Council Board last night, where the Officers and Victuallers of the Navy with Sir Thomas Clutterbuck had been solemnly heard thereto. The effects whereof Mr. Pepys opens to their Lordships this day, and Sir Anthony Deane gives an account of his having examined Sir T. C.'s paper wherein he undertakes for the present plentiful supply of victuals he has made for the fleet in the Straits, and his finding the same short of making good the supply pretended. Which nevertheless Sir T. C. being called in he adheres to his last night's assertion of at the Council Board, viz., of having 4000 men's victuals in readiness there for 6 months to end in May next, but upon demand could shew no proofs thereof saving his own assertion. Upon which, he being withdrawn, his Majesty and their Lordships were pleased to declare themselves wholly unsatisfied with Sir T. C. his manner of undertaking. But that nevertheless it would be necessary to keep him this year in the victualling of the Straits, neither he nor the victuallers of the navy appearing by their present visible preparations to be singly to be relied upon for the same, And that therefore it being proposed by Sir Anthony Deane (according to the Navy Officers' discourse had with Sir T. C. and the said victuallers last night at Derby House after the rising of the Council) that Sir T. C. should hold his present victualling at his present price, allowing the victuallers $\frac{1}{4}d.$ per man a day in consideration of their victualling at Tangier, [and that] Sir Anthony Deane should be sent forth to confer

¹ MS. 'by.'

with them together upon that proposal. Which he accordingly was, and returning gives notice that they are agreed upon Sir T. C.'s giving and the victuallers accepting that farthing, and thereupon they being called in, the victuallers undertook for their continuing to supply the port of Tangier, and Sir T. C. (with his head) to answer all the demands of victuals for his Majesty's fleet within all the rest of the Straits, and they do also mutually declare their satisfaction that this day's agreement and warning (which is now given to Sir T. C.) shall suffice for Sir T. C.'s ceasing his pretences to any further victualling in the Straits after Michaelmas next, and the victuallers for their not entering upon the said victualling according to their contract from the beginning of the present year.

The victuallers are now directed to send all the victuals they had provided for the Straits to Tangier.

A convoy is demanded and granted them for the victuals they design to send from Ireland to Tangier.

A letter read from Sir John Berry to Mr. Pepys of the ill state of the affairs for sick men in the Downs, which was recommended to the care of the Officers of the Navy.

A petition being brought in by his Highness Prince Rupert from Captain Royden, late commander of the Sweepstakes, praying a re-hearing of the matter for which he was sentenced by a court-martial to lose his said command; The same was judged of dangerous consequence to the discipline of the navy, and thereupon judged unfit to be allowed.

Their Lordships are pleased to command Mr. Pepys to attend his Majesty to-morrow at the Committee of Foreign Affairs to receive his commands about the forces to be brought over out of Flanders.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 1678-9

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Lauderdale; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys is directed to send instructions to all the places where the soldiers coming from Flanders are

designed to be landed, that some persons of the navy or other do take a strict list (by muster of the names and number of the persons put on shore out of the respective vessels in which they shall be transported), to be sent up hither in order to the checking of their muster-rolls when they come to be paid off.

That my Lord Mulgrave's¹ regiment ordered to Harwich be directed when it arrives there to repair into the river of Medway, with their being to be quartered at Rochester.

Mr. Pepys reading a letter just now coming from Captain Wetwang,² dated the 9th instant, expressing the backwardness of the soldiers coming away and the dangerousness of the season for the great ships to lie without, off of Ostend; It was ORDERED, by Captain Wetwang's advice, that as many of the 4th-rates as exceed what are necessary for the bringing the men out of Flanders which are remaining there, computed at 1600, be ordered back to the Downs to lie there in more safety till further order.

JANUARY 18, 1678[-9]

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers and Captain Shales attending.]

The business of the victuallers taken into debate, and the ineffectualness of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's paper of this day's date opened th[o]roughly³ by Sir Anthony Deane, shewing all the victuals pretended to by him to be now in his stores in the Mediterranean not to be sufficient to answer the very remainder of the declaration of the last year, without anything to be looked upon to be provided for this.

A letter read from the Officers of the Navy, with the

¹ See note on p. 611 above.

² Captain, afterwards Sir John Wetwang, had been appointed to the command of the *Monmouth*, a 3rd-rate, 7th January, 1678-9. On his career, see *D. N. B.*, lx. 388.

³ In the 17th century 'thorough' and 'through' were interchangeable terms.

copy of one to them from the victuallers complaining of their want of compliance in the very payments so lately promised them, which Captain Shales (now attending) says is removed by a warrant signed last night to Mr. Kent, and if that does not satisfy them he undertakes to his Majesty that other ways shall be found out by my Lord Treasurer for their satisfaction.

Captain Shales does also declare that Sir Thomas Clutterbuck has also been hitherto well paid, and assures his Majesty and my Lords from my Lord Treasurer that he shall also for the time to come have his money to his satisfaction, this being demanded of Captain Shales by my Lords upon a letter of Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's to that purpose now read.

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer does assure the victuallers of their weekly payments from ¹ Mr. Kent, or otherwise if he fails.

Upon a request to that purpose from the victuallers, it was answered that a convoy should be at Kinsale a month, if they were ready for it, and that the said convoy should take in a supply of provisions of theirs there.

RESOLVED, upon a letter read from the Officers of the Navy, that the *Rose* be laid up as soon as notice can be had of money ready to pay her off.

A paper of the victuallers of the navy read, containing several heads of smaller demands, which was granted as far as contract does admit.

A letter read from the Officers of the Navy, advising the sale of some old boats of his Majesty's lying upon the beach of Deal, convertible to no use but subject every day to [s]poil; Which was agreed to.

Lieutenant Williams's letter from Brest read, and an account given of Lieutenant Dancer's proceedings in his journey to Morlieuse ² for intelligence from France; The same approved, and their disbursements thereon to be paid with reward. As also the vessel hired by Sir Robert Robinson on this occasion, and now seized on at Weymouth upon the score of a small quantity of wine necessarily taken on board to give pretence to his lieutenant, Lieutenant Winn's going thither to be discharged.

¹ MS. 'to.'

² Probably Morlaix.

Mr. Secretary Coventry tells the Lords that the King of France's soldiers, which by the Treaty¹ are to quit the Spanish towns, are not sent quite away into France, but drawn down to the coast of Flanders and there kept. He also observes to his Majesty, in order to his considering the same, that the King of France's orders to his ships are now become peremptory not to strike to any, wherever they are met with, being persuaded by advice from my Lord Privy Seal and the Speaker that his Majesty would proceed to the making some more than ordinary provision for the better securing of his land and fleet; his Majesty was pleased to respite the debate thereof to another place and time.

A letter being read from the Officers of the Navy, enclosing an extract of another to them from Sir Richard Beach² charging Mr. Pett, the master-shipwright at Chatham, with great neglect of duty under pretence of sickness, which was followed by late discourses of the long evils his Majesty's service has sustained by the disagreements between Sir Richard Beach and Mr. Pett, —too great to be longer borne with; And thereupon RESOLVED, that it being suspected there may be faults on both sides, Mr. Pett should be acquainted with this complaint, and the examination of the whole referred to the Officers of the Navy for them to make an impartial report thereof to my Lords.

JANUARY 19, 1678[–9]

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Chancellor; Lord Treasurer; Duke of Monmouth; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Mr. Secretary Williamson.]

Mr. Pepys attending his Majesty this day at the Committee for Foreign Affairs, to renew a motion by him humbly made at a late meeting of my Lords of the Admiralty³ and approved of by their Lordships, touch-

¹ By the treaty with Spain, signed at Nimeguen 17th September, 1678, France had undertaken to restore Charleroi, Ghent, and other towns to Spain.

² Resident commissioner of the navy at Chatham.

³ See 11th January.

ing the calling home some of the ships from the Straits, which his Majesty was pleased to refer to his debating the same at this Committee, which motion Mr. Pepys took rise¹ for his thus renewing from the reports lately spread abroad touching the French King's naval preparations, and designs of attempting something upon this or the kingdom of Ireland; His Majesty was pleased to take into his consideration with my Lords now present the importance of his having Sir John Narbrough's fleet at home in case the French King should, according to those reports, have any real design of attempting something upon us, the remaining of Sir John Narbrough in the Straits being in that case no other than the plain exposing of that part of our naval force to be overpowered by the French in that sea, and the robbing of this kingdom of the benefit of it here. Upon a full debate whereof, and its consequences in reference to the Algireens' war and the future management of our trade in that sea, as the Dutch do, only by convoys; It was RESOLVED, that directions be sent to Sir John Narbrough for his making haste home with his whole fleet, leaving only one 3rd, four 4th and 5th-rates, with two fireships and a sloop, to attend Tangier and the mouth of the Straits, besides what more he shall find necessary to leave upon the account of convoys, That he bring with him his Majesty's stores and provisions from Port Mahon, as also the America hulk, for England, in case she shall not be judged fit to leave for that use at Tangier, That he leave Vice-Admiral Herbert² or Rear-Admiral Strickland³ there in the 3rd-rate to command the ships that shall be left, whereof the 2 galley-frigates to be two of the 4th-rates and the Castle one of the fireships, That all the care he can be taken at his coming away for the safety of our merchants, and That he come not away until he has been at Algier and there made⁴ another offer of peace upon such terms as he shall be particularly directed from his Majesty by the hand of Mr.

¹ Took occasion. MS. 'rice.'

² MS. 'Hearbt.' On Arthur Herbert, afterwards Earl of Torrington, see *D. N. B.*, xxvi. 169.

³ On Sir Roger Strickland, see *D. N. B.*, lv. 52.

⁴ MS. 'make.'

Secretary Coventry, as he will be in the other matters by that of Mr. Pepys ; The whole to be for better security sent overland by messengers on purpose, one to Cadiz, another to Alicante, and a third to Livorne, so soon as Mr. Pepys shall have had opportunity of adjusting all matters with the Officers of the Navy necessary to be considered on for the well ordering of all things to be provided for in the calling home of this fleet relating to men, stores, provisions, what to be brought home and what leave there and where, the disposal of slaves, etc., not now to be thought on, wherein his Majesty's pleasure is also particularly to be known, and upon the adjustment of the whole, instructions to be prepared by Mr. Pepys accordingly for his Majesty's signature and then dispatched away as before with all speed.

JANUARY 25, 1678[-9]

Memorandum. That there being an extraordinary Council called upon some sudden public occasion in the Council Chamber, and his Majesty obliged at noon to go to chapel, it being a collar-day,¹ the present meeting of my Lords of the Admiralty was prevented.

JANUARY 31, 1678[-9]

[At Derby House. *Present*: Prince Rupert ; Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Secretary Coventry.]

Their Lordships having appointed this as an extraordinary meeting to consider of the trust and powers lodged in them by his Majesty's Commission under the Great Seal for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of England, the said Commission, together with the Order of Council bearing date the 13th June '73² establishing several rules for the direction of the Lord High Admiral of England and whereto their Lordships are for their guidance by the said Commission referred, were perused, and it being thereupon observed that the only

¹ A day on which knights wear the collar of their order at Court; *cf.* Pepys's *Diary*, 29th Sept. 1662. January 25th is the Conversion of St. Paul.

² An account of these instructions is given in *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 36.

powers of the Lord High Admiral reserved by this Commission from their Lordships to his Majesty being that of granting offices and employments, and the benefits of the profits belonging to the Admiral; Their Lordships were pleased in the first place to look upon it as a fit subject for their consideration how they should be indemnified in the non-execution of all the other powers of the Admiral, his Majesty being pleased to issue most orders relating to the disposal of his fleets and ships at sea from under his own hand, without their privity, Their Lordships thinking themselves incapable of rendering the account which may be expected from them as Admirals, unless all designs and orders for execution be communicated to them.

And in order to their Lordships enabling themselves to give his Majesty, as far as may be, such an account of the state of the navy in all the principal parts of it as it stands at this day, they were pleased to RESOLVE, and ORDERED, that Mr. Pepys do with all speed take care that full information be provided for their Lordships in each of the particulars following :—

1st., An abstract of the several ships at sea, their stations and strength, with an account from Sir Anthony Deane of the state of their victualling.

2nd., An account of the present state of the stores, as also of all the ships in harbour, and where they now are.

3rd., The state of the Treasury of the Navy, deducted ¹ from the time of my Lord Treasurer's last laying down a method of assigning moneys for answering every particular use thereof, viz., for tickets, provisions, paying off ships, furnishing out, etc., and how the same have been complied with.

4th., What complaints, and how proved, of the badness and unwholesomeness of victuals.

5th., The weekly certificates which are in arrear from my Lord Brouncker ² of the debts and running accounts of the navy.

6th., The several instances we have had of the French

¹ In the sense, now obsolete, of to bring down from a particular period.

² Comptroller of the treasurer's accounts.

refusing to strike to or otherwise affronting our ships, and how the same have been resented.

7th., The present state of all the new ship[s], when they began building, and by what time they will be finished, as also what payments will be necessary thereto and for setting them to the sea.

8th., How soon a fleet may (in the circumstances we ¹ are in) be made ready for the sea, capable to maintain the sovereignty of the seas, if it should be presently ² set on work. As also what force would be requisite for that end, and the charge of such a fleet.

9th., The account to be gotten of the seamen of England, returned last year to the Council Board.

10th., A method to be settled [of] knowing the true number of seamen abroad in trade, from the custom-house and our own entries of passes, as also what seamen are employed in the King's fleets, in order to the knowing what further numbers may be to be had for reinforcing the same. *Q[uaere]*, Whether the properest method of compassing this may not be by employing some one skilful man to intend ³ this work, with a reward for the same, as the 'calculate ⁴ he shall hereafter bring of the said numbers of seamen and the measures by him taken therein shall appear satisfactory.

Lastly, A calculation of the expense, debts, and payments of the navy, from and by the state that was delivered thereof to the House of Commons of what was necessary, when an actual war was apprehended to be designed against the French King.

FEBRUARY I, 1678[-9]

[At the Robes Chamber. *Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Master of the Ordnance; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

A[n] account being given his Majesty by the Lords who were present at their meeting yesterday of the inquiries they were now making into the state of each

¹ MS. 'were.'

³ *I.e.* superintend.

² Immediately.

⁴ Calculation, estimate.

part of his naval affairs, and their several heads upon which they directed Mr. Pepys to prepare the several accounts and reports incident thereto, in order to their laying the whole of the same, according to their duties, before his Majesty ; His Majesty was pleased to declare that the proceedings upon any such inquiries into the state of the navy would be at this time inconvenient for his service, by hazarding the too great exposal of the present ill condition thereof, and thereupon to direct that their further proceedings thereon should be respite till further order. Which was accordingly submitted to by their Lordships' direction to Mr. Pepys to forbear proceeding upon his part thereon, with this caution only, that their Lordships' determination of yesterday and his Majesty's commands to them thereupon this [day] should be expressly noted in their *Journal*.

The account from the Officers of the Navy of the present state of the new ships read, and the careful dispatch thereof in all things earnestly recommended to them.

A letter coming just now to Mr. Pepys from the victuallers of the navy, complaining that, notwithstanding the late promise made them by my Lord Treasurer, and Captain Shales's later undertaking thereon at this Board¹ they had not yet received the payments they expected, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, upon reading of the said letter, gave an account that the stop to those payments had arisen only from the delay which had happened to Mr. Kent's patent, which his Majesty said he had signed yesterday ; So as they being called in, they were satisfied as to that point, as also in another relating to the non-compliance they complain from the farmers of the hearth-money, the Chancellor of the Exchequer promising to speak to my Lord Treasurer on that behalf.

A petition of Danvers, late purser of the Captain, being read, desiring to be heard in his justification in the matters for which he was lately by his Majesty turned out of his employment ; RESOLVED, that the examination thereof be referred to the Officers of the Navy.

A complaint being exhibited by the boatswain of the

¹ See 8th and 18th January.

Roebuck, Captain Botham¹ commander ; ORDERED, that the same be referred to a court-martial.

His Majesty having been prevailed withal, at the instance of his Highness Prince Rupert and my Lord Chamberlain on behalf of themselves and others, the Company Adventure trading to Hudson's Bay,² to accommodate with the loan of the John and Alexander fireship, to be by them employed in their said trade for the space of a year ; His Majesty was pleased this day to declare the same to my Lords, and to ORDER that the same be done, upon good security given for the return of the said ship within that time in as good condition as she is now to be delivered to them, all risk of the sea and otherwise to be borne by them and his Majesty indemnified therefrom.

A letter from Mr. Bertie³ read, intimating some irregularities in the company of the Mary yacht, in their forcible conveying away some wines from on board, notwithstanding an officer of the custom-house was then on board and forbade the same. RESOLVED, that an account thereof be demanded from Captain Gunman.⁴

A letter from the Officers of the Navy, bearing date this day, read and agreed to, about certain privy seals, and providing for the building of the remainder of the 30 ships.

Mr. Pepys moving for the speedy payment of Lieutenant Williams for his voyage, lately mentioned,⁵ for intelligence into France ; ORDERED, that he together with Lieutenant⁶ Dancer, employed at the same time on the like occasion, be effectually and speedily paid by the Officers of the Navy, not by bill expressing the service, which may endanger their lives if ever hereafter they should be caught in France, but upon terms importing only some extraordinary and particular service by direction of his Majesty.

My Lord Privy Seal taking notice of their Lordships

¹ MS. 'Bodham.'

² On Prince Rupert's share in the Hudson's Bay adventure, see *D. N. B.*, xlix. 414. The Company had been incorporated in 1670, and the sphere of its operations was named Rupert's Land.

³ MS. 'Berty.' Mr. Charles Bertie was secretary to the Lord Treasurer.

⁴ Commander of the Mary yacht.

⁵ See 18th January.

⁶ MS. 'Ld.'

having for a good while wanted the due returns required from the Officers of the Navy of their weekly receipts and payments, the same was imputed to the sickness of my Lord Brouncker, and undertaken by them now present to be hastened to their Lordships.

FEBRUARY 15, 1678[-9]

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Ossory; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Lord Sunderland¹; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Complaint being made by the Officers of the Navy of an arrest made upon the person and an attachment upon the goods of one of his Majesty's workmen in his yards, without the leave of their Lordships; ORDERED, that the persons guilty thereof be proceeded against according to the practice of the navy in that case.

An answer being read from Captain Gunman relating to the complaint exhibited against his ship's company by Mr. Bertie² at the last meeting of my Lords; ORDERED, that the same be transmitted to Mr. Bertie,² to be from him handed to the Commissioners of the Customs for further enquiry.

Mr. Pepys desiring the direction of the Lords touching the number of men to be declared for in the Mediterranean to be provided for by Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, they were pleased to leave the determination thereof to his Majesty.

An account given by Mr. Pepys of several sentences of a court-martial lately held by Sir Richard Rooth in the Downs, received their Lordships' approval.

It appearing from the Officers of the Navy that the John and Alexander fireship, designed to be lent by his Majesty to the Hudson's Bay Company,³ was never yet paid for, and that consequently it may be hazardous to have any money laid out upon her or goods put on

¹ Robert Spencer, second Earl of Sunderland, had just purchased the reversion of Williamson's office of secretary of state for £6000 (*D. N. B.*, liii. 370).

² MS. 'Bertye.' See note on p. 636 above.

³ See 1st February.

board her, lest she should be seized upon by the owner, as it is conceived she may justly be, his Majesty having never yet had any bill of sale for her from her owners; RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy do enquire whether the owners of her will be contented to give his Majesty a bill of sale, taking their payment for her in the course of the navy without insisting upon present payment, and to report their answer to my Lords.

It was referred to the Officers of the Navy to take care for the sick seamen put on shore at Portsmouth, suitable to what they do in other places.

His Majesty coming in before their Lordships rose, was pleased to command a yacht to be provided for the transporting of Mr. Arundell and some others of the Queen's servants.

His Majesty is pleased also to declare his intention of having another yacht built for Captain Fasby¹ by Mr. Thomas Shish at Woolwich, to be of the same bigness with the Charlotte.²

ORDERED, that Mr. Vanderpoole at the Brill, in whose hands remain what has been saved from the wreck of the Charles yacht,³ be reimbursed the remainder of his charges, with the reward of £20 from the King, by the hand of our Ambassador there, from ⁴ whom he has already received part of his said disbursements.

Mr. Pepys acquainting his Majesty and my Lords with my Lord Bishop of London's late recommending a gentleman to serve as chaplain to the 3 guard-ships lying at Chatham, the spiritual care whereof, together with the groats, does by the practice of the navy in the like case heretofore appear to appertain to the chaplain of the ordinary there; RESOLVED, that this precedent be not admitted for pluralities in the navy, but that the care of these ships and the profit arising thereof be preserved in and to the said chaplain of the ordinary, as of right it ought.

¹ He had been in command of the wrecked yacht, the Charles.

² This was the Henrietta yacht, built at Woolwich by Mr. Thomas Shish in 1679. Captain Fasby was appointed to command her by a commission dated 18th December, 1679.

³ The entry in Pepys's *Register of Ships* is 'Cast away on the coast of Holland, November, 1678.'

⁴ MS. 'for.'

A request being exhibited this day to my Lords by Major Halsall, for a new boat to be allowed him from the navy for his castle of [blank]¹; RESOLVED, that the stop formerly put to the bringing upon the navy the charge of providing boats for castles (which appeared clearly to be an innovation, and that which may be easily attended with the occasioning a double charge to his Majesty for the same thing by being paid out of two offices) be continued and inviolably observed.

His Majesty being informed of my Lord Bishop of Winchester's being able and willing to supply his Majesty with the quantity of timber belonging to the Church which Sir John Kempthorne reports upon survey to be judged very useful for the new ships, provided that for avoiding of any scandal his Lordship may be authorised thereto by direction from his Majesty; RESOLVED, that his Majesty's pleasure for his doing thereof be signified to him by Mr. Secretary Coventry, upon his having a memorial thereof given him by Mr. Pepys.

FEBRUARY 22, 1678[-9]

[*Present*: The King; Duke of Lauderdale; Lord Chamberlain; Lord Craven; Lord Sunderland; Mr. Secretary Coventry; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

An estimate signed of the charge of a new yacht, with order to the Officers of the Navy to limit the charge of her carving and gilding to that of the Cleveland and Charles yachts.

The weekly account read from the Officers of the Navy of the progress on the new ships; and RESOLVED, that the 3rd-rate now ready to launch from Mr. Castle at Deptford² and the 2nd from Mr. Shish at Woolwich,³ the former upon the 3rd, and the latter upon the 4th of March next.

Reports from the Officers of the Navy in answer to several references from my Lords touching Lieutenant Noden,⁴ Mr. Pet[t], Mr. Cooper, and the Mediterranean victuallers, as to the number of men to be provided for there by Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, read and approved of.

¹ Calshot; see note on p. 599 above.

² Either the Elizabeth or the Hope.

³ The Windsor Castle. ⁴ First lieutenant of the Dunkirk.

A letter from Mr. Vernon,¹ secretary to his Grace the Duke of Monmouth, being read, touching some soldiers designed to be speedily sent to Tangier upon the ships going now thither with provisions ; RESOLVED, upon the question, that the ships be not obliged in any wise to stay in expectation of the said soldiers, but that they take the first opportunity of weather for sailing without losing any time in attending for the said soldiers after they shall be otherwise ready to sail.

A petition being read from the victuallers of the navy, complaining still of their want of the payments promised them, the same was committed to and undertaken by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to solicit my Lord Treasurer therein.

ORDERED, that the Virgin's Delight, Captain Marley master, going to Tangier with stores and provisions, be committed to the care of the convoy going with the Turkey ships.

ORDERED, upon Mr. Pepys's motion, that the several Vice-Admirals be called upon for the giving an account of the moneys committed to them for the pressing of men the last year for the fleet fitting forth for the war expected against the French King.

Notice being taken of some late instances of the scarcity of pilots to be met with fit to take charge of the King's ships, and the encouragement thereof necessary to be considered of for the raising and keeping a good stock of pilots ; the same was recommended to the consideration of the Officers of the Navy, and particularly in seeing the bills granted by their Office be justly rated to their satisfaction, and without difficulty paid, and that the table of rates for pilots' bills (if it be not already done) be ascertained.

MARCH 1, 1678-9

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Treasurer ; Duke of Monmouth ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Chamberlain ; Lord Craven ; Lord Sunderland ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Pepys acquainting the Board with what is done in reference to the 300 men designed to be sent as recruits

¹ MS. 'Vorman.'

to Tangier the provision made for transporting them thither, and my Lord Dumbarton's regiment¹ consisting of 1200 men to Ireland, as also the sending of 4 ships into the Soundings in expectation of the Virginia fleet coming home, which last is done in pursuance of an Order of Council now read, and estimates signed for the same. He also gives their Lordships an account of the return of the messenger² who carried his Majesty's last express to Sir John Narbrough for the calling him home with his fleet,³ which express went hence the 28th of January '78[-9], was delivered at Livorne to Captain Wyborne to be by him carried to Sir J. N. to Port Mahon, and the messenger returned hither the 28th day of February following.

It being observed by his Majesty and my Lords, that of the thirty ships designed by the Parliament order is taking for the building of 29, so as all that remains now undisposed of as to its building is one 2nd-rate, a proposal is tendered to their consideration from Sir Anthony Deane, offering without any condition for reward to take upon him the care of seeing the same built within the price set by the Parliament and within the time that the other 2nd-rates already appointed shall be finished; which proposal his Majesty ordered to be referred to the consideration of the Officers of the Navy to give them their opinion concerning it.

Upon a petition read from the company of the Charles yacht, lately cast away upon the coast of Holland, for the payment of their wages and satisfaction for the loss of their clothes; ANSWERED, that no satisfaction for

¹ Lord George Douglas was colonel of a Scottish regiment in the service of Louis XIV, which had been known as the Douglas regiment, but on 9th March, 1675, its colonel was created Earl of Dumbarton (*D. N. B.*, xv. 296). This regiment was the 1st foot, the Royal Scots. Raised in 1633, it served chiefly in France till 1666. It was in England during the Second Dutch War, and took part in the defence of Sheppey and the ships in the Medway in 1667; the Douglas who was burnt on board the Royal Oak on 13 June was a captain in it. The regiment returned to France in 1668, but had been recalled to England about 1675.

² *Note in margin*: 'Mr. Atterbury the messenger within meant.'

³ See 19th January.

clothes is allowed in any other case than that of loss in fight, and that for the preservation of good discipline the loss of the vessel must be examined before a court-martial and the occasion thereof cleared, before any order be given for the payment of their wages, though by what has appeared of the manner of the said yacht's loss, his Majesty and my Lords are already satisfied in their private opinions that the loss of her cannot be charged either upon the master or company.

Referred to the Officers of the Navy :

The petition of Lieutenant Hastings.

The petition of Captain Story's surgeon in the Portsmouth, who read prayers to the ship during the voyage, after the death of the chaplain, my Lord Bishop of London recommending his case.

The satisfying for the bringing over upon a hired merchant-vessel some of the Duke of Monmouth's soldiers from Calais.

Doctor Le Grosse's complaint.

A petition from a chaplain denied, desiring the full complement of groats, though by the sudden discharge of his ship, the war intended against France not going on, she stayed not long enough abroad to have her whole complement of men.

The like upon petitions of several commanders, praying that their wages may be allowed from the date of their commissions though they lay not on board, from whence alone, by the express rule of the navy, a commander's pay is to commence.

A proposal being presented by his Grace the Duke of Monmouth from a certain foreigner, one Van Barge,¹ for the discovery of a North-East Passage, but upon terms not satisfactory to his Majesty in the practicableness thereof ; His Grace was advised to direct the proposer to render the same more intelligibly by explaining the same.

His Majesty declaring his purpose of going down on Monday next to the launching of Mr. Castle's new 3rd-rate ship at Deptford,² and being informed of an experiment which will be then ready to be made of an engine designed by one Mr. Beane for the warping any of the ships down the River against the wind ; he was pleased to

¹ *Margin* : ' Van Berge '

² See 22nd February.

direct that the same should by the Officers of the Navy be ordered so in the time of its doing as that he may have the satisfaction of seeing its effects upon a ship of his own, appointed by his said Officers to have this experiment made upon.

MARCH 25, 1679

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Sunderland; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain; Mr. Seymour¹; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Pepys acquainted his Majesty and my Lords by particulars with the extraordinary charge that his Majesty has for a long time and still remains under from the great number of ships in pay at home and abroad, more than his Majesty's service calls for, for want of money to pay them off, Besides the injury his ships are subject to by being kept longer abroad than is convenient without their necessary refittings, and the want of time which his Majesty lies under for the doing of it in case they be not called in, if any occasion of action should arise. Besides that the Newcastle and Cambridge have long lain in the River in expectation of pay, and several others come in and daily coming in from some defects disabling them from staying abroad, while there is no money either to discharge their companies with or provide materials for their repairs. He also took notice that Sir John Narbrough's fleet may be daily now expected home, consisting of ships that have been long abroad, their men much in arrear of pay, and without so much as our being under any certainty of having victuals here at home to maintain them on board with until there be money to discharge them, the victuallers of the navy being very backward in all their supplies,—witness the dilatory furnishing the 4 ships with victuals that are now out to the westward, and a letter from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] which was read, in answer to one of Mr. Pepys's to them complaining of their delay.²

Mr. Seymour also adds the great debt now due to the

¹ No longer 'Mr. Speaker,' as although re-elected by the new parliament of March, 1679, he had been rejected by the king (*D. N. B.*, li. 313).

² *Marginal note* to this minute: 'Dilatoriness of payments very fatal to the welfare of the navy.'

yards, being twelve months in arrear, upon which the Officers of the Navy declared to his Majesty the little work done in the yards from the discouragement the workmen lie under from the want of their pay, It being with difficulty that they are kept from mutiny. Sir Anthony Deane also opening very particularly the present condition of the victualling of the navy, and the fatal disappointments his Majesty's service must inevitably suffer in case some way be not found to satisfy the victuallers and set them vigorously to work while the season of making provision lasts.

Notice is moreover taken of my Lord Treasurer's having yet made no provision for answering those heads of the navy's wants of money which were contained in the Officers of the Navy[*'s letter*] to my Lords of the 4th of January last, which had received so solemn readings before his Majesty, and been taken with so much earnestness by my Lord Treasurer by his Majesty's direction to see answered ; As also of the general discourse everywhere met with of the great naval preparations now making by the French King, and the information of one Fox, a master of a merchant-vessel, given to Sir Richard Rooth in the Downs and from him handed to Mr. Pepys, of several vessels said to be lately sent away from Brest laden with arms to Ireland ; And lastly, Mr. Seymour offered to his Majesty that timely consideration might be had of the state of the money appointed by the Parliament and come in for the new ships, that we do not out-run the same in our works, so as to begin [*and*] not to have wherewith to finish, he observing (if I understood him right) that there was £380,000 of it already paid away.

Upon all which his Majesty was pleased, as to those parts of these discourses which relate to money, to declare that he would be pleased to recommend them to the intended Commissioners of the Treasury¹ so soon as their Commission should be passed ; That it should be committed to the Officers of the Navy to draw up as particular a state of the present charge and debts of the navy as they can, in order to the information of the said Commissioners ; And lastly, that the great and only reliance

¹ Danby resigned the Lord Treasurership at Lady Day, 1679, and from 26th March the office was put in commission.

for money for the removing of these difficulties was upon the Parliament, to whom the same, when seasonable, must be represented, by the Treasurer of the Navy¹ as far as concerns the navy wants, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer² for what relates to the incapacity of his revenue to answer the same.

For what relates to the reports of the French preparations, his Majesty seemed to have certain intelligence, from persons expressly employed by him to that purpose in France, that there are no such preparations making in France to the degree that reports make them, but that the whole that is now doing there amounts to 8 ships at Brest, 5 at Cherant,³ 8 or 10 and 26 galleys at Toulon, and about 8 at Havre-de-Grâce, and that the King of France's ships have instructions wholly to avoid meeting with or coming near any of his Majesty's for preventing any quarrel that may arise touching the flag. Which my Lords mentioned as a point about which it seems impossible long to prevent a quarrel with France, and that therefore his Majesty ought to prepare a force capable to maintain his pretences⁴ therein.

Lastly, as to what concerns the victuallers, his Majesty was pleased to command that a meeting should be held on purpose upon their affair on Thursday morning next, being the 27th, and that they in the mean time should be directed to come then prepared to shew the true state of matters as they now stand between his Majesty and them as to their payments and preparations of victuals for answering the current declarations according to contract.

The Officers of the Navy complaining of the great prejudice done to the credit of his Majesty's naval service, and their being disabled from keeping that regular account and understanding of the state of the navy debt, by a liberty lately exercised by or in the name of my

¹ Seymour, although no longer Speaker, was member for the county of Devon in the new parliament.

² Sir John Ernle.

³ Rochefort, which had been made an important naval station by Colbert in 1666, is situated on the river Charente.

⁴ *I.e.* claims. As Pepys uses the word, here and elsewhere, there is no implication of falsity or fraud.

Lord Treasurer to order their making particular payments, contrary to the established course of the navy, by moneys to be especially appointed by his Lordship for making of the said payments ; RESOLVED, for the time to come the Officers of the Navy be authorised and enjoined to refuse the giving any obedience or compliance to any orders sent them from any hand whatsoever for payments extraordinary out of the standing course and established method of the navy, before they have communicated the same to my Lords of the Admiralty and received their directions with the King's pleasure thereupon.

Mr. Pepys taking notice that nothing appeared yet to be done in reference to the chain designed for the security of Portsmouth harbour, which the Officers of the Navy informed his Majesty to arise from the want of money demanded by their particular estimate long since signed for that work ; His Majesty was pleased to direct that to be taken notice of when the Officers of the Navy come to state the general wants of the navy.

A letter from my Lord Treasurer of the 20th instant ¹ read, recommending a debt of one Mr. Dorrington's for a ship of his sunk in the river of Thames upon the coming in of the Dutch, *anno* 1666. But it did not appear that the case differed from several others whose ships were at the same time sunk without any satisfaction to this day made for the same, or they could therefore shew any favour to Mr. Dorrington without giving just dissatisfaction to those others which were in the same condition with him.

An Order of Council of the 19th instant read, in favour of several merchants who, by the falling short of the Poll Bills,² remain unsatisfied for goods by them served in to the navy for the expected war against the French King. Which Order having provided a course wherein the said merchants' bills shall be registered and paid by the Officers of the Navy, RESOLVED, that the said Officers be authorised to put the same in execution.

An extract of a letter of Captain Hamilton's, commander of the Charles galley, to the Officers of the Navy being

¹ *I.e.* before his resignation took effect.

² See note on p. 577 above.

read, giving large and particular instance of the injurious consequence of the lead sheathing upon his ship, and more especially upon her rudder-irons,¹ in confirmation of the many complaints of the like kind formerly received from other hands; ORDERED, that the same be again recommended, with more strictness than it has yet been, to the observation and report of the Officers of the Navy.

A petition of one Mr. Worth, merchant of Penryn in Cornwall,² praying the delivering up of a bond by him entered into in the time of the first Dutch war upon the account of some prized goods by him then bought; ORDERED, that it be referred to Mr. Wright,³ his Majesty's Counsel ⁴ for the navy, to whom the care was committed long since of putting the said bond in suit, to report his knowledge of the case and opinion of the reasonableness of the petitioner's request.

Mr. Pepys reading a letter from Captain Wetwang of the instant,⁵ giving an account of a late mistake of Captain Trevanion's in the Saudades in shooting at a Holland's East Indiaman within their own streams, as being within almost a gun-shot of the pier-head of Flushing,⁶ to the great dissatisfaction of the States, until he, the said Captain Wetwang, had acknowledged to them its being the private mistake of the said Captain Trevanion; ORDERED, That a copy of Wetwang's said letter be put into the hand of my Lord of Sunderland ⁷ for his information in the fact, in case any notice shall be taken thereof here by the Dutch Ambassador.

ORDERED also, in behalf of Captain Wetwang, upon the motion of Sir Thomas Allin, that order may be given

¹ MS. 'rother irons.' This form is referred to by the *Oxford Dictionary* as obsolete, but according to Smyth's *Sailor's Word-book* it was still in use in the navy in 1867.

² MS. 'Cornwill.'

³ See p. 325 *n.* above.

⁴ MS. 'Councill.'

⁵ 'Of the instant' might mean 'of the present month,' but it is more likely that the day of the month is omitted by mistake.

⁶ MS. 'Vluishing.'

⁷ As Mr. Secretary Williamson's successor.

for Captain Wetwang's being paid for his service the last year as captain under Sir T. A., then admiral in the Royal James,¹ that he may be paid according to the established practice of the navy in the like case.

A letter being read from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, praying the benefit of Sir John Berry's convoy to two victualling-vessels of his, the Mediterranean and Advice, bound to the Straits with victuals to be taken in in Ireland ; the same was agreed to.

RESOLVED also, that Mr. Secretary Coventry do signify his Majesty's desire to my Lord Bishop of Winchester, at the instance of the Officers of the Navy, of being his customers for some of his Chu[r]ch's timber,² reported by the Officers of the Navy very useful for the new ships now in building, and that extracts of the said Officers' letters may be to that purpose put into the Secretary's hands by Mr. Pepys.

MARCH 27, 1679

[*Present* : The King ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Seymour ; Chancellor of the Exchequer. Navy Officers attending, and the Victuallers of the Navy.]

The victuallers of the navy being, according to the resolution of the last meeting, ordered to attend with an account of the present state of matters between his Majesty and them as to their payments and pretences to payments, as also to the delays complained of in their late supplies of provisions and the lowness of their stores, they accordingly attended, with a representation to their Lordships in writing giving answer to each, which was read, and upon debate and opening the same on [the] part of his Majesty by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Treasurer of the Navy, and Sir Anthony Deane, it appeared to his Majesty and my Lords that the said victuallers were actually possessed of moneys and

¹ On the prospect of war with France, Allin had been appointed in 1678 commander-in-chief in the narrow seas with his flag in the James Royal.

² See 15th February.

assignments upon good funds¹ established by Act of Parliament, to the full of all they have any claim to for the service of the last year, And that the whole of what is due to them upon the declarations of the present year to the end of the last [month ?] is £11,000 and no more, according to the terms wherein the method of their payments was mutually settled between my late Lord Treasurer and them the 8th of January last at this Board. To both which calculations they submitted as true, and from thence it was concluded on behalf of his Majesty by all the Officers of the Navy, that no victuallers thereof since any man's memory had been complied with to their degree, and that the more observable in the case of these gentlemen, who are recommended to some degree of preference to his Majesty in their admission to this undertaking by the largeness of their pretence² to giving his Majesty credit to a greater value than any other had heretofore or could do in case of any straits his Majesty could be under for want of money to enable him to comply strictly with them in point of his payments.

And as to this £11,000 debt upon the present year's service, the Treasurer of the Navy did shew that they did yesterday put into his hands an order from my Lord Treasurer for his putting presently³ into their's assignments for a sum of £10,000, with an allowance of £10 per cent. interest for the money that should be borrowed thereon, so that then there would appear but £1000 in arrear to them from his Majesty to the end of February last, which they were ready to admit also, saving that they would not allow that money could be upon any terms of interest presently raised upon these assignments.

As to the low state of their stores, they acknowledged it, justifying the same from the great sums of money they are out upon the services they have done, and their not being able to raise money upon so great a part of their former assignments as they pretend² to have now dead upon their hands, and for what concerns the particular instance of their late delays in the supplying of the 4 ships designed to the westward with Sir Robert Robinson,

¹ MS. 'Fonds'—the ordinary 17th century form. It was not superseded by 'funds' until the 18th century.

² See note 4 on p. 645 above.

³ Immediately.

they endeavoured to avoid ¹ his Majesty's and the Lords' belief thereof by a letter produced by them from an agent of theirs giving a pretended ² account of the said ships being daily supplied. The contrary to which was made to appear by several letters passed between Sir Robert Robinson, Mr. Pepys, and the Officers of the Navy, complaining of the great loss of time by reason of the deficiency of the victuallers on that occasion, and the like with respect to the dispatch of the Edgar and Dreadnought, now in the Downs bound to the southward, and the general shortness of the provisions upon every other of his Majesty's ships.

Upon the whole, the victuallers withdrawing, and it being upon debate shewn, and allowed by the Officers of the Navy, that it would be impossible at this time to make any change of hands by which the victualling of the navy could presently ³ be undertaken, either with so much readiness as that his Majesty's service should be secure against disappointment under so great a number of mouths as are now eating in the navy (which they in their discourses had expressed their willingness to submit to his Majesty's trial in, if he thought fit) or upon so easy terms of payment as that of £1000 per week which was settled with them by my Lord Treasurer for their answering of the first moiety of the declaration; It was RESOLVED, That all ways ⁴ should be used, and that to that purpose it should be recommended by the hand of Sir John Ernle ⁵ to the present Lords Commissioners of the Treasury (whereof himself is one, and their Commission to be opened this afternoon) to make use of all possible means before all other things to provide for the satisfaction of these gentlemen; with whom (they being called in again) it was finally and mutually agreed, upon debate between my Lords in the name of his Majesty and them, that as to the King's part care should be taken for the speedy payment of this £11,000 to clear what is due upon the present year's service, and that they should for the future be punctually complied with in their weekly receiving the sum of £1500 from his

¹ *I.e.* refute.

³ At present.

⁵ MS. 'Earnle.'

² See note 4 on p. 645 above.

⁴ MS. 'alwayses.'

Majesty for the carrying on of the said service, Upon presumption of their being complied with wherein, they do expressly undertake to his Majesty and my Lords for their due answering to his Majesty, according to the terms of their contract in all things, whatever quantities of provisions his service shall at any time call for from them, within the compass of each moiety of the declaration made for the present year for 8236 men, as also for what further part of the said declaration shall be transferred to them to be provided here of what was heretofore distributed by the O[fficers of the] N[avy] to be provided for in the Mediterranean, Together with their due answering the demands of the ordinary and extraordinary in harbour and constant keeping up of their staple. Provided on their behalfs, and agreed to by his Majesty and my Lords, that whatsoever sum their issues upon these services shall amount to in value above what their said weekly payments of £1500 [do?], shall be effectually made good to them at the end of the year, when the difference between the one and the other shall appear.

APRIL 3, 1679

[*Present*: The King; Lord Ossory; Lord Sunderland; Lord Craven; Sir John Ernle.¹ Navy Officers attending.]

Mr. Pepys presenting to the Board a late Order of his Majesty's in Council, bearing date 28th March, referring to them the consideration of a petition of Sir John Frederick, Sir Nathaniel Herne, and other merchants of London,² praying a convoy of force more than ordinary for the present year's fishery at Newfoundland,³ and their desire therein being at the same time opened to his Majesty and my Lords by Sir Nathaniel Herne and Mr. Benjamin Howland in the name of the rest; His Majesty was pleased to declare that their request should be granted,

¹ Hitherto described as chancellor of the exchequer.

² Alderman Sir John Frederick and Co. appear to have been merchants trading to Spain and the Mediterranean (*Cal. S. P. Dom.*, 1672, pp. 242, 629; 1672-3, p. 609); and Sir Nathaniel Herne was probably connected with the same firm (*ib.* 1672, pp. 242, 629).

³ MS., here and elsewhere, 'Newfound Land.'

both as to the number of ships they desire and the times of their being ready. After which his Majesty advising them that some care may be taken to prevent ships going away before their convoy and the body of the fishery depart from Newfoundland¹ or quitting them in the voyage, to the great prejudice of their and their merchants' private estates, and the public dishonour of his Majesty and occasioning of clamour and reproach upon his service, they did freely acknowledge the reasonableness of his Majesty's observations, and proposed (as the only way to remedy² it) that his Majesty's commands herein, prohibiting the like irregularities for the future and making them penal, may be published by proclamation. Which was committed to Mr. Pepys to see brought under timely consideration with his Majesty and my Lords.

ORDERED, upon a letter read from Sir John Kempthorne touching a parcel of timber fit for the use of the navy which may be had from the Bishop of Salisbury, that a memorial be put into the hand of Mr. Secretary Coventry signifying his Majesty's pleasure therein to this Bishop³ suitable to what was done the other day⁴ in like case to my Lord Bishop of Winchester.

A report being read from the O[fficers of the] N[avy] upon the matter of Sir Anthony Deane's proposition, lately referred to them from my Lords,⁵ touching the building for his Majesty the last of the 9 new 2nd-rate ships⁶ yet remaining unprovided for, his Majesty and their Lordships were pleased to agree with the said Officers in their advice in having her built in his own yard at Portsmouth, provided they do first th[o]roughly⁷ satisfy themselves in the safety of her being built upon the launch⁸ there, and that she may be dispatched within the time therein mentioned.

¹ MS., here and elsewhere, 'Newfound Land.'

² MS. 'reamedy.'

³ *Margin*: 'Memorandum, that it was accordingly tendered him by Mr. Pepys 4th current.'

⁴ 25th March.

⁵ See 1st March.

⁶ For a list of these see *Catalogue of Pepysian MSS.*, i. 223.

⁷ MS., here and elsewhere, 'thoroughly'; see note 3 on p. 628 above.

⁸ This word is used of the slip on which the ship is built.

A letter being read from the Officers of the Ordnance, desiring his Majesty's directions what number of guns shall be sent to Bristol for the bringing about from thence the new 3rd-rate ship building there¹; RESOLVED, that the number of guns be 30, whereof 10 for below, 12 for the upper tier, and 8 for the quarter-deck and fore-castle, with stores proportionable for that voyage.

A letter being read from Captain Moore, late master attendant at Portsmouth (now removed to Deptford), shewing that unless he be speedily relieved therein by his Majesty he is in danger to be proceeded against to an outlawry by Mr. Newland, a merchant, for £86 due for the freight of horses by him sent over to Guernsey the last year in obedience to an order of his Majesty's and for the security of that island; ORDERED, that it be in a special manner recommended to the Officers [of the] N[avy] that that debt may be cleared and thereby Captain Moore indemnified, the justice of his Majesty and the future credit of his service being in the utmost degree concerned therein.

A petition to the Earl of Ossory from the cooks of several of his Majesty's ships at Chatham being presented to the Board's consideration by his Lordship, praying the withdrawing the suspensions lately put upon them by order of Sir Richard Beach²; ORDERED, that the same be referred to the Officers of the Navy, that the ground of their said suspension may be th[oroughly] inquired into and reported from them to this Board.

There was likewise referred to the said Officers the consideration of another petition, then read, from Mr. Pearse, Chirurgeon-General of the Fleet, praying, upon the considerations therein mentioned, an allowance of an able clerk for the assisting him in his said employment, and preventing his Majesty's being prejudiced by errors in any of the accounts of his deputies in the ports relating to the same.

Mr. Pepys gave an account to his Majesty and my Lords that, besides the ships which ought to be called in

¹ The Northumberland; her full number of guns in time of peace was 62.

² Resident commissioner of the navy at Chatham.

of the great number still¹ abroad, there are several now come into the River calling for repairs before they can be fit to go to sea again, and that it would therefore be a piece of good husbandry to put them out of growing charge by paying them off, Namely, the Maryrose, Antelope, Guernsey, Roebuck, Mermaid, and Swan, besides the Cambridge and Newcastle, which have long lain in the Hope, and the St. David, which is newly home from the Straits and stays now in the Downs in expectation of orders for her being called in, she having been long abroad. ORDERED, That the determining how the said ships shall be disposed of be respited until it shall appear how money may be found for the paying of them off.

A letter is read from Colonel Stapleton from Nevis,² dated the 4th December last, signifying the death of Captain Haddock, commander of the Quaker ketch, and Colonel Stapleton's purpose of sending the ketch home after the Christmas then approaching. And thereupon RESOLVED, that the Officers of the Navy be directed forthwith to consider of and report to this Board what other vessel of his Majesty's may be judged fittest to succeed the said ketch upon her coming home.

APRIL 8, 1679

[*Present*: The King; Prince Rupert; Lord Privy Seal; Lord Ossory; Lord Craven; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain. Navy Officers attending.]

A letter from Sir John Narbrough, bearing date the $\frac{7}{17}$ of March from Alicante, being read, largely expressing his want of provisions for his fleet there, and more especially Sir Thomas Clutterbuck's great failures at Port Mahon both as to money and provisions, and Sir T. C. being thereupon called in, he in his defence insisted upon his having made good his undertaking in January last³ of maintaining the fleet with provisions till the month of May, but more especially upon the great failures of payment which he has long lain under from my Lord Treasurer. Upon the truth whereof the said

¹ MS. 'style.'

² West Indies.

³ See 11th January.

Sir T. C.'s justification wholly depending, and all the misfortune that may be found to arise to the fleet from the want of provisions to be charged or not upon him, His Majesty and their Lordships were pleased to direct the Principal Officers strictly to examine the same, as to his being or not being complied with in his payments and his compliance or non-compliance with his undertakings, and to report the same to this Board.

Sir Thomas Clutterbuck did also, in order to his further justification, let fall a suggestion grounded upon a letter which he produced of the 11th January last from his agent at Port Mahon, that Sir John Narbrough did industriously design his prejudice by misrepresenting his services in order to the turning him out of his employment, as designing to get the victualling of the fleet into his own hand. But it was not thought fit to give way to any present belief thereof, it being suggested by Sir T. C. only in his own defence and upon no other grounds than this letter of his servant's, who might for the same reason suggest it to him; And therefore it was left to Sir T. C. to procure some further evidences of it, in case he expected credit should be given to it.

Mr. Pepys desiring the direction of his Majesty and my Lords in the choice of the ships to be appointed for the Newfoundland and Iceland convoys, and reporting to them the advice of the Surveyor and the Officers of the Navy therein; It was RESOLVED, that the Swan and Guernsey, two 5th-rates, be appointed for Iceland, and the Maryrose, Antelope, and Reserve, of the 4th-rate, be three of the 4 intended for Newfoundland, and another thought on in the room of the Oxford propounded for the fourth, His Majesty's purpose still remaining of sending her along with my Lord Colepeper¹ to Virginia. ORDERED also, that the same be put in hand for the said respective voyages.

A letter being read from the Officers [of the] N[avy] advising that the bottom of the Old James, now in the dock at Woolwich, may be removed out of the said dock and laid on there alongst the wharf of the long storehouse there till there shall be money for rebuilding her, by which

¹ See note on p. 604 above.

means his Majesty will have the use of that dock for any service that may require the same, and the bottom of the said vessel will not receive such damage by the weather whilst she shall thus lie under the wharf, filling her with water and leaving only a small scuttle for the coming in of fresh water every tide, that so the water in her may be kept sweet, as she will in the dock ; The same was agreed to, and ORDERED to be put in execution, his Majesty recommending it to the special consideration of the Officers of the Navy that they do yet again satisfy themselves in the good husbandry of it before they proceed upon any charge for the rebuilding of the said bottom.

The said Officers in the same letter also advising that of the 300 men's victuals formerly propounded to be declared for at Smyrna one moiety might be declared for at Scanderoon,¹ in regard the 2 ships now gone with the Turkey ships are not (as they now understand) to go both to Smyrna but one of them was intended to Scanderoon¹; the same was agreed to, and ORDERED accordingly.

The like was done upon a further advice of theirs in the same letter, that the 6th-rates employed in the Downs may, as they want any cleaning or refitting, be sent into Sheerness, and not into Dover as was lately proposed by Sir Richard Rooth, then commanding in chief in the Downs, in regard it often happens, as they have heard, that there is not water enough for a 6th-rate ship to come into the harbour at Dover, and his Majesty hath not there any stores or officers for the performance of that work, and a 6th-rate may at any time almost presently [go] over the Flats² and at Sheerness, where the King hath men and materials for the speedy dispatch of such work.

Another letter* being also read from the Officers of the Navy, containing extracts of complaints from Mr. Furzer, master-builder at Portsmouth, of abuses by him received lately there from Sir Robert Robinson and Captain Ashby in his compliances with his duty and pursuance of his orders from the said Officers [of the] N[avy] ; RESOLVED, that for the necessary preservation

¹ Alexandretta (Iskanderun).

² Kentish Flats.

of the discipline, and the regular expense of his Majesty's treasure and stores concerned in this complaint, the said Sir Robert Robinson and Captain Ashby be, so soon as they shall return from the westward, called to account for the matters herein complained of, and the same was ORDERED accordingly.

The Officers of the Navy complaining in another letter, then read, of the irregular proceedings of Captain Talbot, commander of the *Maryrose*, in discharging the master by them appointed thereto without any cause shewn for the same, much less calling him, as he ought to have done, to a court-martial to answer for aught that was chargeable upon him, which the said master declares himself desirous of; RESOLVED, that Captain Talbot be reprehended for this his proceeding, and that if he have anything to accuse his said master of he does it regularly at a court-martial.

The said Officers in the same letter shewing that several of the relations of the men who perished at the late unhappy loss of his Majesty's ship the *Marigold* prize¹ at Tangier [are] daily import[un]ing their Board for receiving the pay which was due to their said relations, they desire orders concerning the payment of the said wages and also of the wages of the rest of the said ship's company who escaped; And his Majesty and their Lordships having been fully satisfied by the accounts received from Tangier of the extraordinary storm in which the ships were blown out of the harbour of Tangier, and she in particular lost in the night in such manner as no care of her officers and company could have prevented the same; RESOLVED, that the wages as well of those that escaped as what is due to the relations of such as perished be paid by the Officers of the Navy.

Two sentences of a court-martial held upon the 27th of March last were read and approved of,—one relating to Mr. Parker, master of the *English Ruby*, Captain Thomas Allen commander, and the other to Hugh Tule, boatswain of the *Francis*, Captain William Collins commander, With this only doubt raised by his Highness

¹ Entered in Pepys's *Register of Ships* as 'Driven with others by a storm from her anchors in Tangier Bay, and lost on that coast, January, 1678-9.'

Prince Rupert and referred to consideration upon perusal of the Statute¹ in this case, whether power be lodged in a court-martial to incapacitate a man to any future employment as this court has done in the case of Tule ; It was referred to Mr. Pepys to inform himself in and report the same to this Board.

Mr. Pepys presenting to the Board a petition of Captain Langley, commander of his Majesty's packet-boats at Harwich, praying satisfaction for the passage and victuals of soldiers, his Majesty's subjects, by him brought over from Holland in pursuance of an order of his Majesty's signified to him some years since by Mr. Secretary Williamson, amounting to 2400 persons brought over in four years and a half according to particulars annexed to the petition, the whole sum for which he prays reimbursement for the same amounting to £206 2s. 6d. ; RESOLVED, that it be referred to Sir Joseph Williamson to examine and attest the truth of the said petitioner's allegations or what he knows thereof, and his opinion of the reasonableness of the petitioner's demands.

Mr. Pepys giving his Majesty and their Lordships an account of the several ships, great and small, now lying in port in expectation of orders either of their being paid off or refitted to go forth to sea, they lying now in useless charge to his Majesty, and therefore praying some resolution therein ; AGREED, upon debate thereof by his Majesty and their Lordships, that they should continue where they now are, the state of his affairs and treasure not allowing them any orders concerning the same until the Parliament shall enable his Majesty by money to determine what ships to pay off and what to keep abroad or fit forth.

His Highness Prince Rupert taking notice to his Majesty and my Lords that his Majesty has been pleased to resolve upon employing his galliot the Rupert, Captain Holland commander, in fetching of some wine over from the Rhine for his Majesty's special use, and moving therefore that his Majesty would be pleased to allow his said galliot to be caulked and receive some other small refittings in

¹ 13 Car. II. c. 9 (1661).

her hull, her rigging and furniture being all good ; the same was agreed to by his Majesty, and ORDERED to be done accordingly.

APRIL 19, 1679

[*Present* : The King ; Prince Rupert ; Lord Privy Seal ; Lord Ossory ; Lord Sunderland ; Lord Craven ; Mr. Vice-Chamberlain ; Master of the Ordnance ; Treasurer of the Navy.¹ Navy Officers attending.]

Their Lordships being attended by Mr. Thornhall, solicitor in behalf of William Gault and bringing a certificate under the hand of Mr. Bedford, Deputy-Register of the High Court of Admiralty, giving an account of the whole proceedings of that Court in the case of the said Gault relating to the ship William of London, formerly heard before their Lordships and their order given in therein bearing date the 3rd August, '78, the said certificate was read, and the same, together with the papers annexed, ORDERED to be presented to the Council Board in return to the order of reference from thence to the Lords of the Admiralty bearing date the 7th February 1677-8.

Mr. Pepys giving his Majesty and my Lords an account of his last advice from the Straits touching Sir John Narbrough's proceedings there, The probability of his and the gross² of his fleet's being speedily here, the great arrear of wages due thereto, and growing charge while they shall lie unpaid, As also of the squadron of ships now cruising to the westward under Sir Robert Robinson's command and what are now further abroad in the Downs, at Portsmouth, and the Narrow Seas, in order to his Majesty and their Lordships considering what would be needful to be forthwith done in reference to the security of our coast and navigation against any of the attempts of France now discoursed of and apprehended³ ; His Majesty was pleased to inform the Lords of all the intelligence he had received in reference to the present naval preparations of France, and the improbability of our receiving any

¹ Hitherto ' Mr. Speaker,' or later, ' Mr. Seymour.'

² *I.e.* the main body.

³ *Margin* : ' Preparation against any eminent [*i.e.* imminent] invasion from the French.'

trouble this year from thence. Nevertheless, upon debate by the Lords, it was RESOLVED, that forasmuch as the same may be done without much present charge or ready money, as many fireships as his Majesty has of his own at home be got ready, that the six great ships at Portsmouth, viz., Royal Charles, Charles, James, Vanguard, Eagle, and French Ruby, have their rigging brought overhead, and that the two ships lately built and ordered to Chatham, viz., the Windsor Castle from Deptford and the Sandwich from Harwich, be not carried up the Medway higher than the Blackstakes, but kept there in readiness for any exigence of service till further order.

It was also considered that what with the ships now abroad near home, those expected with Sir John Narbrough from the Straits, all the new ships that are launched, and such of the old ones as were fitted to sea the last year and soon after called in, a very good fleet of ships may be suddenly got together, provided time may be allowed for their manning and the victuallers put into a condition of supplying them with provisions, who are at this time said to be very backward therein.

It being proposed to consideration whether Sir John Holmes, now in the Downs, should with the ships under his command there repair to Portsmouth, there to keep a rendezvous of all the force his Majesty has now at home and shall come in from the southward and westward, in order to the more effectual resisting any force from France; It was concluded as best for his Majesty's service that the ships in the Downs do still remain there till further order.

His Majesty is pleased to say that he does design to send speedily some horse and dragoons¹ to lie somewhere in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth for the better security thereof. *

RESOLVED also, that since for want of money the chain long since proposed to be made for the security of Portsmouth harbour has not yet been done, a boom be forthwith provided by the Officers of the Navy, in the best manner they can, of masts and cables.

Mr. Pepys acquainting his Majesty and their Lord-

¹ MS. 'Draggones.'

ships on this occasion that the dispute touching the command in chief between the governor of the garrison at Portsmouth and the flag or other officer commanding his Majesty's ships there remains to this day undetermined, the governor on shore, viz., Colonel Legge, laying claim to the same by virtue of an order obtained by him from his Majesty the last year by a Secretary of State without the privity of the Lords of the Admiralty, to the great offence of the fleet then there, and supposed wrong not only to the authority of the Lord High Admiral of England but to the general discipline and necessary conduct of his Majesty's service in case of any action there by sea, and therefore moving that the same may be thought fit to be now brought to a speedy issue, in regard of the present posture of his Majesty's affairs there ; ORDERED, that as well Colonel Legge in his part as the flag-officers of the fleet and other principal commanders be summoned to attend his Majesty and their Lordships at their next meeting, in order to their alleging what they shall on either side have to urge in favour of their respective pretensions and his Majesty and their Lordships coming to some determination therein.

A motion being made for some better care to be taken for providing for sick men put on shore at Deal than by complaints from that place and from Mr. Pearse, Chirurgeon-General of the Fleet, appears at this day to be ; It was referred to the Treasurer of the Navy and by him undertaken to solicit the Lords of the Treasury in.

Notice being taken that the Charles pink, formerly hired to attend the Lord Colepeper¹ at Virginia, continues here still in pay and the time of the Lord Colepeper's departure still uncertain ; ORDERED, nevertheless, that she be still retained in the service till the time certain for which she was hired by the Officers of the Navy be expired, The Lord Colepeper's dispatches being now said to be almost finished.

RESOLVED, that the Stavoreen, as soon as she can be got ready, do proceed to Tangier with the soldiers to be taken on board her from the Edgar.

Mr. Pepys reads an account from Sir John Holmes

¹ See note on p. 604 above.

of the extraordinary proof of the ship Captain,¹ to the great satisfaction of his Majesty and their Lordships.

RESOLVED, by a motion of the Officers of the Navy by a letter to that purpose, that some speedy way be found for the disposing of the small timber remaining in his Majesty's yards which was unavoidably bought with larger for the use of the new ships, but will not be employed thereon; The same to be done in such manner as the law will admit.

Thereupon the Treasurer of the Navy taking a proper occasion of laying before his Majesty and my Lords the state of the money by him received and already paid away of what was given by the Parliament for the said new ships, and the prospect he hath of the speedy consumption of the remainder, and the want there will then be of his Majesty's supplying out of his own revenue what the charge of the said ships will, by his Majesty's increase of their dimensions, call for above the sum given, and which his Majesty was pleased in a speech to the Parliament² to take upon himself the making good; His Majesty was pleased to answer that, as the state of his revenue now stands, he doubts his being able to make his word therein good, otherwise than as the Parliament shall put him into a condition for it.

Information being given from Sir John Holmes of a mate of Captain Coleman's in the *Edgar* his being heard to utter in his drink some unfitting words touching his Majesty's having lost the Parliament, and others in that kind by way of news, his Majesty was pleased to dispense with any further punishment to be awarded the fellow for the same than that he be duly punished for his being drunk.

His Majesty and my Lords being also informed of some few small bundles of wool lately found upon the seas and seized by his lieutenant, Mr. Byron, supposed to have been flung overboard by some wool-stealer, and Sir Richard Rooth also moving therein that his said lieutenant may have the benefit of his Majesty's part of the said goods; His Majesty was pleased to agree

¹ *Margin*: 'Ship Captain a good sailer.' She was one of the new 3rd-rates, built at Woolwich by Mr. Thomas Shish.

² See pp. 223, 288, above.

thereto, and ORDERED the same to be granted him accordingly.

A paper having been delivered in from Sir Thomas Clutterbuck, representing the great difficulties he is under for want of money to answer some bills of exchange drawn upon him from Livorne for his Majesty's service, and to the ruin of the credit thereof there if not complied with, the Treasurer of the Navy had the soliciting thereof with the Lords of the Treasury committed to him, with his Majesty's command to press the same.

Mr. Pepys observing to his Majesty and my Lords the convoys now preparing more than ordinary, at the instance of the merchants concerned, for the attending the Newfoundland fishery this year,¹ viz., 4 4th-rates, Whereas the usual convoy has not exceeded 2 4th-rates or one 4th-rate and a 5th, and thereupon putting his Majesty and their Lordships in mind of the great wrong his Majesty's honour has been generally exposed to and losses the merchants have sustained in former years by the liberty taken by the masters of the fish-ships either to depart from Newfoundland before their convoys or leaving them in their voyage in order to the coming earlier than the rest to their market, and thereupon proposing it as a thing expedient to be thought of whether it may not be proper that that liberty be for the future prohibited by a proclamation to be to that purpose issued, Especially since Sir Nathaniel Herne,² and others the merchants soliciting for this convoy, have under their hands (in a letter to Mr. Pepys then read) not yet yielded to but desired the same; ORDERED, that before the departure of the said convoys a memorial be put in to the Council Board in order to the debating of the said matter there, and a proclamation issued therein if found expedient.

Upon notice received from Sir Robert Holmes³ of the 16th instant, giving an account of 4 Dutch Bordeaux⁴ ships with wine lately cast away upon the Isle of Wight,⁵ and the boat's crew of men belonging to the Royal

¹ See 3rd and 8th April.

² See note 2 on p. 651 above.

³ See note 5 on p. 581 above.

⁴ MS. 'Burdeaux.'

⁵ MS. 'Weight.'

James, Sir William Jennens¹ commander, overset and lost in their greedy endeavours after purchase² from the said wrecks; RESOLVED, that a sharp reprehension be given by the Lords to Sir William Jennens for giving way to, if not sending, for his own benefit as well as theirs, his boat and men from their duty on board (the Royal James being now only a guard-ship lying in harbour for the security of the ships there) to look after private benefit.

Mr. Pepys observing to his Majesty and the Lords the great liberty taken by commanders of absenting themselves from their commands on board without leave, either of his Majesty, their Lordships, or any other superior officer, or continuing on shore beyond the time given, The same being expressly contrary to the Instructions of the Lord High Admiral, and tending to the great reproach of his Majesty's service and the utter subversion of all good discipline therein; RESOLVED, that the commanders at this present guilty thereof (some being named) be reprehended from his Majesty and sent down to their ships, and that for the future no commander be allowed to come up from his command upon any pretence whatsoever, without leave expressly given under his Majesty's own hand or under the hands of a quorum of their Lordships.

RESOLVED, at the instance of his Highness Prince Rupert, that 5 men and a boy be allowed in victuals and wages to be defrayed by his Majesty during the present voyage upon his Highness's galliot the Rupert, now going to fetch over wine from the Rhine for his Majesty's especial use.

S. PEPYS

APRIL 21, 1679

Memorandum

That his Majesty having yesterday, being Easter Day, caused the Council to meet extraordinarily, and therein declared by the Lord Chancellor his dissolving that, and

¹ MS. 'Jennings.' See *D. N. B.*, xxix. 319.

² Plunder.

purpose of choosing a new Council,¹ did this day cause as many of the said new Privy Councillors as were then present to be sworn and take their places accordingly ; Declaring also his intention of making

Sir Henry Capel, ² Knight of the Bath,	
Daniel Finch, ³ Esquire	
Sir Thomas Lee ⁴	} Baronets
Sir Humphrey Winch ¹	
Sir Thomas Meres ⁵	
Vaughan	} Esquires
and	
Hales	

his Commissioners for the execution of the office of Lord High Admiral of England ; and Sir Henry Capel was accordingly sworn and took his place as Privy Councillor, by virtue of his being First Commissioner in the said Commission of the Admiralty.

¹ The council established in connexion with Sir William Temple's famous constitutional experiment.

² *D. N. B.*, ix. 17.

³ *Ib.* xix. 1.

⁴ *Ib.* xxxii. 383.

⁵ *Ib.* xxxvii. 274.

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